Charles Fothergill

Halberts' Direction

Mr. John Halbert
Nice - Lake
To be left at Mr. Choats' Inn - Smiths -
Creek -

Direction to the man of whom I have
some idea of purchasing a Town-lot
at Smiths Creek

Mr. James W. Fox
Cooper
Smiths Creek
L. Ontario -

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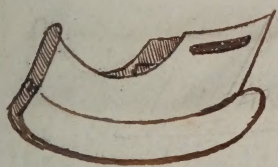
A few Notes made on a Journey from Moubreal through the Province of Upper Canada - in Febʸ 1817 -

1817
Febʸ 8th Left Moubreal at 10 o clock this morning Drawn by Young Toby ridiculed by every one as incapable of drawing my self - Equipage & Luggage to the end of my journey - my carriage one of my own invention. built upon a common Canadian Train bottom. this a good one of the kind selected for the purpose - boxed up on the sides & ends with lock'd keeps for my portmanteau &c — the runners & shafts black body bright green - inside yellow total cost, including iron work - but exclusive of harness, (which was a common Habitans set & cost £2:10:- curry.) £ 5 — currency —



This outline will give some idea of the form of the machine —

I chose this kind of carriage for its strength & convenience - could not be easily broken or put out of order - & capable of containing a great quantity of baggage - I am afraid Young Toby will find the whole two men for him as he is only 3 ft 1 - old - rising 4 - but the roads are considered unusually good in consequence

of the great quantities of snow that has fallen - bad effects of the train-shafts however in making deep holes - light showers of small snow - road to La Chine, 9 miles, very agreably diversified - gentle undulations of ground - winding road - sometimes through fields & sometimes through considerable portions of the ancient forest state in its original state - one village about a mile from Montreal ( ) and many single houses adorn both sides of the way - I like the mode of fencing the fields much better than the worm or snake fence of the U. S. - which is seldom or never used in this country - i.e. in the Lower Province the method most frequent in this part of L. Canada will be best exprest by the following little sketch

The Canadians fond of driving their trains in company one after the other generally very fast - their obstinacy in not turning out of the way very inconvenient & often dangerous to travellers - particularly when snow is in drifts or deep on the ground - tho' very polite in bowing & touching their caps - yet

they seem'd have no notion of any com=plaint in this respect. I found it a short 9 miles to La Chine which is a long straggling, but not very populous village. Cock=nawaugha a village & a considerable no of Indians who are called by that name appeared on the opposite bank of the river, (here apparently 1/2 mile wide) with it church. At La Chine are many store houses for the goods that are shipped in Batteaux for the Upper Coun=try when the navigation is open. These batteaux which carry 2½ barrel bulk were lying in great numbers on the beach at La Chine went upon the river & Drove from thence all the way to Point Clair on the ice. Arrived at Pt of Clair abt 10 o'clock. 18 miles from Montreal & stopped at the inn formerly kept by one Glassford - now by a Scotch High=lander. fed Young Toby & dined myself on the cold provisions I had with me which were a cold ham - cold Turkey - biscuit & a Dutch Cheese - with wch I had provided myself for fear of accidents so that I had but 6d to pay for 2 quarts of Oats for my horse & 6d for Brandy & Water. Point Clair has a windmill & a church & one tolerable street of houses many of them of very decent appearance - some 2 stories high most with balconies & steps leading up to them - a few stone houses - but mostly

wooden & the Inns or Taverns - at least their signs very numerous - Leaving this place I again descended onto the river & had a most circuitous route on the ice round Lake St. Louis - but the scenery grew more interesting - Pt. Claire itself is a low point of land running far out into the river & may be seen afar off from both above & below - Before I arrived at the Isle of Perrault the track on the ice led me amongst a group of picturesque islands - The novelty of gliding along such a river on a sledge twinding round islands of various dimensions was pleasing - The Isle of Perrault itself is large & populous - with a great deal of clear land of very excellent quality - but the wretched system of Canadian farming still continues - they throw away all their manure as worse than useless for they say it makes weeds grow thereby reducing their fine land to such a state at last that weeds really will not grow by reason of its poverty - A little before I left the Isle of Perrault I passed the Church of St. Anns on my left abt 100 yards - it stands close to the river on a little point of land at no great elevation above the water - This church is principally

remarkable as being the place where the voyageurs in the service of the N. West Company bid their last farewell to their friends & have solemn Mass said by the Priest for their prosperity & safe return - for which Priest like service the poor wretches individually pay the sum of 6d - If they neglect this essential business they cannot have success - neither can they return in safety But the Mass having been performed they set out on their perilous undertaking with the greatest confidence & joy - here too these remarkable people are put on their travelling rations or daily allowance of that kind of food on which they are to subsist like their returns this is two handsfull only of pearled Indian corn - & a small quantity of Bears or other grease - This ration is for 24 hours - out of which time they have only 4 for sleep - being compelled to incessant Labour - & that too of the severest kind for 20 hours successively - at the portages each man has to carry 200 lbs weight - yet notwithstanding this stinted food of one kind & often of an indifferent quality - want of proper rest & various hardships - the Canadians are particularly fond of this kind of life

approaching the Cascades of the Cedars I was pleased to see that Government have really begun to build the Locks & Lock-houses for the canal that is cutting in order to pass these Cascades & the similar rapids above them - an improvement loudly called for - it had a most agreable effect in the midst of such romantic scenery & the masonry appeared excellent - From the river just, by the first lock, I ascended a short but very steep hill from the top of which as the sun set in glorious splendour - I had a delightful view of the river below on my left hand - It has here a very winding course for some miles up & is thickly set with islands of various magnitude covered with beautiful timber - The Cascades, & the Rapids above, take their name from a grove of remarkably fine cedars which stood on a point just above them - many of the largest have fallen but there are still some remaining mixed with the other wood - & I saw a great many of stunted growth on the steep banks of the river a little higher up - The rapids, particularly those just below the village of the

Cedars, & the cascades make a continued & a loud roar that has a charming & wild effect at a little distance in the stillness of a fine evening - as the rapids never freeze there are wild-ducks & wild-geese hereabouts in winter time - & I saw numerous parties of them this evening - but at too great a distance to discover the species - These with some Snow-birds & a single Carrion Crow were all the birds I saw today - I continued to ride along the side of the Rapids of the Cedars for 3 miles - along the high bank winding above them - before I came to the village bearing the same name - It was nearly dark & my young horse was nearly tired when I arrived - I put up at the best inn in the place kept by one Bell formerly a private in the army - but now a man of some property & a high consideration of himself - I found his family large - & amongst them what always gives charms to travelling - some very fine girls - just marriageable & longing to be married - Judge Campbell with his family from York in U. C. & a young Doctor besides other company having arrived before me

I was obliged to have a bed made up for me on a bureau in the sitting room where is a good house & charges moderate. This village is distant from Montreal about 37 miles. I had the Land lord who is a sensible man to sit with me in the evening in order to get some information as to the present value of land in this vicinity. The average price, at present, in any favourable situation including the building whatever they may be is 10 dollars or £2:10:- Currency & acre cleared & uncleared together. The village of the Cedars is an improving place the number of houses at present about 60 with a population of about 400. From 8 to 10,000 £'s have been expended in the erection of new houses within the last two years, some of which are of two stories, built of stone & very good ones. The place has a neat appearance, with a good church & very romantically situated on a bend of the St. Lawrence which winds considerably hereabouts & there are several large picturesque islands nelle

& beautifully wooded opposite the village. The stream here runs as nearly as I could compute it from 4 to 5 miles an hour - but in the quick rapids below of course much faster. The Canadians of this neighbourhood have a great respect for the English because they say they can depend on their word - but as they think they are made of money or can get it whenever they please from the old country - they know no medium in extortion but to get as much as they can for what they have to sell at so per farm - It is observed that if a man once forfeits his word to them they will never listen to him afterwards - Their hatred to the Yankees seems fixed & eternal - The Americans are too keen & too knowing for them with up principle, the British forbearance - through justice & mercy - neither of which the Yankees seem to have - to take the advantage they might do - Bell is now applying to the Prov: Parliament for a Bill to enable him to cut a canal for 5 miles & erect locks

& otherwise improve the navigation of the St Lawrence near this place at his own expence - to remunerate himself by lock-dues, &c - all which is very public-spirited - & deserving of success.

Feby 9th Sunday } rose at 7 - Glorious sun-rise - most beautiful effect of frozen dew or mist on one of the Islands opposite the village - the only one that had caught the fog - contrasting exquisitely with those which had not all the trees were white & seemed feathered with the brightest crystals & diamonds - trembling & sparkling in the fantastic festoons & the rising sun did not start till after breakfast - had a fine opportunity of beholding the formation of clouds from the smoking vapours that rose from the St Lawrence - becoming dissolved at a certain elevation in the atmosphere - when they rose still higher - appeared white - light grey & opaque & rolled away on airy pinions high over the tallest trees of the forest to the southward, where, in far distant regions they would most probably

fall again on the earth in the form of gentle & genial showers - The road towards the Coteau Du Lac winds along the N. bank of the St Lawrence the day charming & not too cold - met large parties going to church - the inconvenience I was in danger therefrom but one narrow track in that snow that is suff.y beaten & they always drive one after the other in strings - & always as fast as the horse can trot - & sometimes gallop - & they will seldom or never however complaisant in other respects yield any part of the road - the stranger must in consequence go into the snow drift with the chance of being upset - I both saw & received several broad sides in the course of this morning - From the village of the Cedars to the Coteau Du Lac I found about 8 miles - At the Coteau are military works & here is the Inspector's Office for Goods passing into the Upper Province - which has a right to its share of the 2½ p.c. import duties, exacted at Quebec & Montreal for all goods destined or eventually sold for the

public benefit of the country - here is a fort & block - house - the latter occasional buildings with slips for musketry commanding every direction & ditch with sharp pickets of wood pointing into it surrounds the work on which I observed some heavy ordnance - The works are on a low point of land exactly opposite to which is an island well wooded & a strong rapid close to the fort - Lake St Francis begins at this place there are many wooded islands hereabouts - Soon after leaving the Couteau went on the ice and keeping too far out towards the middle of the lake in order to cut shorter across a bay ran very imminent hazard & had to gallop for it for more than a mile the ice bending & cracking all round with an appalling sound - I prepared for the worst in clearing myself to get rid of the machine should it go down but it pleased Providence to preserve us - The lake here appears like a winding river of an immense width 12 or 15 miles wide perhaps - Some blue mountains in the U. S appeared over the dark forests on the opposite shore as I wound round the northern margin of this beautiful lake upon the ice - immediately under the falling

& overhanging trees of the forest
I saw a greater variety of birds than
since the severe weather set in
many of which were new to me
a considerable flock of small tit=
mice flying one after the other from
tree to tree with a twittering noise
several large finches & buntings - a
very beautiful small owl that sat
upon the bare top of a blasted pine
but it would not stay 'tile I had
loaded my double barrelled gun which
happened at the time to be in its
travelling case - I saw also a long-
tailed dark plumaged bird with mark-
ings similar to our magpie which
the second only I have seen in the
country - the first was upon the Isle
of Jesus - In a wild & solitary part
of the forest close to the margin of
the lake met 4 Squaws - of a tribe
I did not know - two of them very young
all of them dragging sledges in the
form of a canoe - proportioned in their
size to the size & age of the Squaws
& all of them loaded with Deer - looking
very like our roe-buck but larger
& of a redder colour - they had also
some birch-bark which they were car-
rying to market - These people were
the reverse of the Habitans for they
got quite out of the road with their little

14. sledges & stood in a snow drift to eat me [illegible] - their complexions were very dark & they dragged their game like other Indians by a broad belt across the forehead - The footsteps of a great variety of wild animals, quite recent - amongst wh I thought I discovered those of a bear - Several wolves were conspicuous in the snow - The sun shone clear & bright - it was not unpleasantly cold & the ride was charming - I presently came amongst a number of new settlement that are rapidly forming in this neighbourhood - I stopped at the Point of Burdette to feed my horse having come 19 miles without stopping - This is a single house kept by one Mc Ghee - a Scotchman who speaks French well. He has four or five Canadian servants - I saw many women & children - The house was very populous & the farm belonging to it good & extensive - yet the accommodations are wretched & I wd advise no one to stop here at any rate - It is a solitary house on a point of land running far out into the Lake & is very useful to boatmen in summer when the navigation is open - I left it about 2 o'clock in the afternoon & descended once more onto the L. St Francis - Driving along on the ice - round the succeeding bay under the boughs of the forest

I entered the woods of Glengary & beheld "the Stately step & sparkling eye" of the Scottish maids passing through the trees on their Sunday visits from one & another with a pleasure not to be described. New settlements are forming with great rapidity the large growth of the timber shews that the land is good. Shot a beautiful woodpecker with a crimson head & white body - dark above - but it remained in the tree on which it was perched clinging to a branch by one foot & dying in that situation although I saw but that one when I found immediately on the dying bird uttering a certain note a number of the same species arrived in the same tree - assembling round the dead bird & chattering in a strange & rapid manner - as if pronouncing a funeral dirge. Just by was a cottage of highlanders some of whose boys in little tartan jackets came & fed the bird - but as night was fast approaching I did not stay to see their success. Single cottages in the midst of the forest - with the road winding under lofty trees - with now & there a view of the lake - have here a beautiful & picturesque effect - I often heard the Gaelic as I passed along. Uncleared land is now selling here for 10 dollars an acre - It was dark when I arrived at a

16. Lone inn & a small one in appearance kept by one Grant who lately purchased it - with 100 acres - half of it cleared - for £620 - which he thought a great price but the situation being good for an inn & the land good - with good buildings - it is certainly cheap - I found it an excellent house - I was charged only 9/3 for Night's lodg for self & horse - supper & breakfast - gill of Brandy - 2½ allows of Oat, &c - Horse Corn is at present always measured by the Gallon (4 Quarts) in the Canadas for which quantity 1/ currency is charged

Monday Feby 10th } Continued my journey between 8 & 9 o'clock this morning. Being now in the Upper Province I found the Snake - Fence of the Yankees frequent - the most general indeed - although the country seen at a distance appears generally flat - yet on travelling over it - various pleasing undulations occur - At the head of Lake St Francis - passed a large stone good looking house on a rising ground to my left which had been made barracks of during the late war - an agreable & romantic situation, but the ground poor - There ought to be a post & military station here according to my judgment - not only as being close upon the head of the lake - but the boundary line or 45th degree of latitude intersects the river nearly opposite

or at least but a little higher up—
Passing this place the appearance of farm houses, &c improve — mostly Dutch settlers in this part who always impart an air of neatness to the places — many teams of Oxen here used for double sleighs — sometimes 4 are yoked together to a heavy load of wood
Came to Cornwall — some good & neat 2 story, frame, clap-boarded houses painted white with bright green doors & shutters & red tops — observed none of stone about 60 in number — not more — so that the inhabitants do not probably exceed from 3 to 400 — This place does not increase fast — said in part to arise from the dislike the people have to the Yankees — People here generally in good circumstances — My landlord one Chesley made a just remark the Canadians are richer than they seem — but the Yankees seem richer than they are — making a great display on small means — Some regular streets at right angles laid out in Cornwall but a very few scattered houses in them — a handsome English church & the people are said to be moral & even devout
Number of wooded islands in the river at this place — & a large Indian village on the opposite bank which I shall probably visit on my return

18. This day very cold - the wind directly in my face - leaving Cornwall great beauty & romanticity of the country - windings & undulations of the road by the river side - through fine park-like scenery & natural shrubberies - with numerous good farms pretty thickly settled - tho' the land in no place appears to be cleared more than a mile back from the river - & in many places for a considerable distance together the road passes thro the primeval forest even in the first concession - a terrible storm of sleet came on about half way between Cornwall & Osnabruck directly in my face very nearly bewildered & so cold could scarcely stand it - my face terribly frozen & my eyes inflamed & the sight de-gree - nearly blind - Arrive at Osnabruck a neat but small village of scarcely a dozen houses upon a high bank of the St Lawrence - 2 very good seem handsome houses - one of them an inn kept by one Baker - who has likewise a store - Found the house filled with people - who had been attending a funeral - upon the strength of which they were getting jovial - much as it is in Scotland & Ireland - offended some of them because I would not drink Brandy before my dinner with them - Mr Baker has a very good home & a neat one & a fine establishment with 100 acres abt half cleared - in which state, with

the buildings - &c - according to 19.
Land now sells in this neighbourhood
it is worth £5 - currency the acre
& cheap enough at that price - in my
opinion - as many good & new build
-ings are included - amongst these, besides
the house, is a Pot-ash manufac
-tory, by the river side - Uncleared lands
in any tolerable situation in this vi
-cinity are on the average now worth
10 dollars - currency - the acre
Left Osnabruck in the dusk of the
evening to go to Ault's Inn - 5 miles
further - a lone house - Darkness came
upon me - the wind cold in my
frost-bitten face - the snow deep -
but arrived in safety & slept in a
room that had no window. When
you order Tea throughout this coun
-try they bring it in the american
fashion - with hot potatoes & hot
meat - generally fat pork or beef
-steaks - & often with apple pie
or preserves - Ault said the people
were all doing well in his neigh
-bourhood & properties daily rising
in value - Beautiful Aurora Borealis bright about 9 o'clock

Tuesday, Feb 7. 11½ } Found it dreadfully cold this morn
-ing - the wind high & still
in my face - Mat is much
to the westward - road wound along the
banks of the river - not frozen here

20- in a great many places owing to the rapidity of its current & winding course - all these open places filled with wild-ducks busily employed in fishing - many of which I could have shot as I sat in my carriage but knowing I could not get them out of the water - thought it no[t] be a piece of wanton cruelty - though I longed to ascertain the species - beautiful wooded islands still frequent in the river - most of the farm houses by the road side greatly superior to any thing in the lower provinces - almost all of them have a kind of rude viranda & balcony before them - & all an orchard - Saw a Three-toed Woodpecker by the road side - a bird so scarce in Europe but before I got my gun ready it was off - I unfortunately missed the inn at [illegible] I intended to have stopped & in consequence went 25 miles without stopping it was too much for poor T.J. Toby who became quite tired - so that I was obliged to stop at a poor shanty in the wood & give him some of the Oats I had with me - whilst I picked the leg of the cold Turkey in my wallet - The country is beautiful & romantic even at this season - what must it be in

summer - The girdled trees like so many wooden columns stand up in front of the living forest have however rather a melancholy & dreary effect to the picturesque tourist approaching Prescott saw the American Town of Ogdensburgh on the opposite side of the St Lawrence here scarcely a mile wide - at least as it appears to the eye - just before entering Prescott & immediately opposite Ogdensburgh is Fort Wellington on the right of the road - which is one of the Keys of the river as it completely commands & the harbour of Ogdensburgh likewise - the earthen works of this fort entirely artificial - sided & the casemates with stones in the inside & the magazines stone with tin roofs. There are not at present more than 8 or 10 pieces of Cannon on the works, tho' capable of receiving many more. It has the appearance, externally, of having been hastily constructed - which was most probably the case during the late war - At Prescott the river again becomes navigable for large vessels up to the Great Lakes & it is probable from this circumstance that it will soon become a place of commercial note - particularly as the large Steam-boat now finish

- ing at Kingston is to commence running at this place & navigate as far as the Niagara District at the head of L. Ontario - next Spring At present Prescott is but a very small place I should not suppose it to contain more than 50 houses with many stores - I found a very good new Inn - kept by a Yankee of the name of Wilson & I was fortunate enough to get a single-bedded room & a thing not frequent in American houses where a great number sleep in the same room & often in the same bed - There is a road across the river on the ice to Ogdensburgh & the communication is very frequent - A newspaper is published at the latter place - I was much amused with it & obtained a copy to keep as a curiosity & as a memorial - A good deal of smuggling appears to be carried on between these two places, for so, indeed, the facilities are great - From a conversation I held with a mixed company in this inn this evening I found many wishes expressed to know exactly where the 45th degree of N. Latitude, or the

boundary line (when ascertained by the commissioners who are to commence operations in the ensuing spring) would strike the St Lawrence — as that spot where ever it might be would become a most valuable & important site for a town or commercial depot & especially favourable for smuggling That corner of the Lower Province when determined wd prove of the greatest consequence too — if fortified in preventing the Americans from slipping down the river — either with hostile or smuggl — purposes to Montreal — which they might easily do unless we have a command on both sides of the river near or upon the line of boundary where it strikes the water — This subject is well worthy a very serious consideration at present St Regis is supposed the identical spot — on the south side the river — in which is an Indian reservation of lands which the American government is now greatly doubtless for some political purpose If a proper attention is paid to this business it wd be very difficult for the Americans to invade Lower Canada by water

Wednesday
Feby. 12th

To my great sorrow discov-
this morning that both
shoulders of my horse were
cruelly wounded by the Collar having
fitted too tightly - no saddler in
Prescott - but one in Brockville
12 miles distant - obliged therefore to
set out with the sores unpro-
-tected - The road side on the river
side much diversified & very plea-
-sing scenery between these places -
The American side by no means
so much cleared, so populous, or
so good as our side the river - no
comparison indeed - Nearly 5 miles
from Prescott stopped at Augusta
to call upon a Mr. Simpson Son of part
of Osborne of Montreal - found him absent
at York - saw his lady a fine comely
genteel lively well-bred woman - for-
-merly moving in the first circles of
fashionable life - The property on wh
these Simpsons live comprises an excellent
stone house & 500 acres of land - nearly
200 of which are cleared - on the banks
of the St Lawrence - sold not long
since by Col. Ogilvy of Montreal to
Mr. S - for £4000 - £300 of which
only were to be paid down - Likely
to be forfeited soon as no money I
understand has yet been paid -
While I do not observe anywhere that

the lands are cleared to the depth of 25.
a mile upon the river, i.e. in continuation. Tho' I understand there are numerous settlements in the rear of the first concessions. Particularly the new one on the rich Rideaux which has already upwards of 2000 inhabitants. Tho 12 or 18 months ago there was scarcely a single chant
Approaching Brockville, formerly
a rather hilly called Elizabethtown
found it had a superior & even
elegant appearance. There did not
appear to be more than from 40
to 50 houses but many of them
are very handsome with green
venetian blinds to the windows
& the church has a cupola top
covered with bright shining tin, so
rising above the wood has a pleasing effect. This little place is gay
I found a large room in the
inn preparing for a ball. being
hung round with green boughs from
the spruce &c. - understood that
30 couple were to dance. Called at
the registrar's office for this district
found that Peppers lands on the
Gananoque lake, which I am
about buying for £20. curry. (190 acres
had not been registered - This is a
agreeable rich & pleasant
of the country - obliged to stop

to set my hands at land - if possible to save young Tobit's neck. I slept [illegible] all night. Like the Bath-room was canopied with green boughs & fit

Thursday Feby 13th. Continued my journey - the weather still very cold - upwards of 20 degrees below 0 on the Thermometer at 8 o'clock in the morning. My face very sore - Yokes of Oxen in teams very frequent - Get into a great deal of wild forest-scenery as I approach the Gananoque - Stop at a lone house in the woods 12 Miles from Brockville - Kept by a Yankee named Mallowly - Found here an old gentleman from York U. C. who is a member of the Legislative Council who wishes me to accompany him to York - This gentleman endeavouring to sell 200 acres of uncleared land to Mallowly - which abut & join upon his own at this place for £150 curr.y which, as times go, & in this part of the country seems high - but I am told it is very good ground - 4 dollars the average price of tolerable, uncleared land, in this part - The people who live in the woods here employ themselves much in making pipe-staves - Mallowly with his 3 assistants who are boys or young men of his own family can make 100 ℔ dozen

We get 25 £ ₰ Thousand for them
Delivered on the bank of the river
2 miles off - to which he drags them
by oxen - Present value of good
staves in Montreal is about £45
₰ Thousand - in England £75 Sterling
Mallowley says there are abundance
of Deer in the woods about him
He shewed me his long gun with
wch he shot them - I could not have
fired it for a rifle - ancient - rusty
& dangerous at it was - my double
- barrelled gun was his admiration
The man seemed very happy & in
- dependent - many Yankees settle
in this part - Leaving Mallowley
the forest grew thicker & more
gloomy - here & there however
a shanty - which is a square
hovel - low - with a tea - pail
or shed roof of boards - the sides
of round logs - with a door & 2
glass windows - first settlers usually
build one of these on their first
arrival in the woods - till they
get a better establishment - said to
be comfortable enough - pro tempore
The woodman's life by no means
uncomfortable or unhappy - I get
into the wildest & finest forest
scenery I have yet beheld - many
rocky & pines of large growth

standing & prostrate in every possible variety of group. Such scenery as wd form & decorate the true nursery of such a genius as Salvator Rosa. & to heighten the effect to the passing traveller - the sound of the woodmans axe or the tappings of the woodpecker, in echoes through the forest is ever & anon falling upon his ear whilst an affrighted deer or a startled wolf dart across the road before him - as twilight fell the shouts of Indians returning from the chase to their camp heard on every side - not long in falling in with a party of Mississaugas - savage looking fellows - stopped by the Chief who wd come into my carriole whether I wd or not my horse being completely tired & with a sore neck made me extremely averse - but he was so strenuous & being well armed - although I had a double gun, loaded - & a brace of pistols - particularly also as he said, as well as he cd make me understand by signs & broken English, that he had lost both his squaw & his canoe & wished to get a lift along the road in search of them - I at length consented - he made a signal to his people who retired & he seated himself by my side - patting me on the breast & crying "good Captain you" - which he often repeated - I am

him to understand that it was not through fear I admitted him being well prepared for attack - To describe the various kind of shout he set up - every now & then - which I could hear echoed to a great distance on every side - would be impossible - They were wonderfully loud & some very frightful - one in particular a sort of guavering howl - not very unlike the note of the English Wood - Owl - but a great deal louder & capable of being heard at an amazing distance - This he gave me to understand his Iguana-nelle knew the meaning of - in one hollow place between two rocks - he made a sign for me to stop - whilst he repeated this howl several times with all his might - but no Iguana appeared - It was now nearly quite dark - save Venus - the evening star which shone with a lustre never seen in Eng[land] & the effect was striking - In one place, on hearing the shouts - several Indian hunters started at once from the forest onto the road - dragging their Deer after them on the snow by a sort of sledge - drawn them with hands coming across the face - head - some of these hunters had killed 6 deer - each that day - their wild dress - savage countenances - guns -

Often said he was good at shooting Yankees

30. strange language (the Chippewa) pro-
-duced an extraordinary effect in the
midst of such wild scenery - Carried
my Indian to Gananoque - gave him
rum his soul & body's delight - laid
him by a wood-fire - as the night
was dreadfully cold - & made him quite
happy - he promised to bring me veni-
-son in the morning - Deer of the
small kind so plentiful round this
vicinity that the Landlord of the
post-house at which I lodged said
that he sometimes had 50 legs or
haunches hanging up at one time
in his house - being once properly
frozen will keep with care all
winter - This kind of deer very little
larger than the Scotch Roe - black &
of a reddish-grey colour - Price in
Kingston market to the Indians
only a dollar the leg - or 2 dollars
for the whole animal - skin &
all - which surely is cheap enough
There is a block-house & about half
a dozen soldiers at this place situa-
-ted on a small eminence on the
eastern side of the embouchure of
the river Gananoque - it, with the
exception of a mile & a half near the
village, is navigable for batteaux
up to the larger Lake of this name
There did not appear to me to be
more than from 20 to 30 houses in
this place & most of those have been
built within the last 2 or 3 years -

a post-Office has been just established here - Supped & spent the evening agreeably enough with the old Gentleman mentioned as being met at Mallowby in the forest - Yankee manners of the landlord's family - the Daughter of whom appointed to wait at Table sat down by the stove & entered into conversation - At tea, both in the morning & evening - hot potatoes hot meat - tarts, &c generally brought as in the States - My face very bad in consequence of frost-bites & my horse with his sore shoulders almost knocked up - Slept in a room like a well - terribly cold.

Friday Feby. 14th } Bolstered up my horse's collar as well as I could to preserve his sore neck & proceeded towards Kingston 24 miles distant - mostly through the uncleared forest - stopped to bait at a house about half way kept by one Franklin, a Yankee - Saw two pine Pokes & a Martin hanging up in the passage & a son of the Landlords, not more than 13 years old, had caught in a trap the night before - One dollar was asked for the 3 Skins - Understood that young Franklin was equally successful nearly every night - arrived at Kingston about dusk - Went to a new Coffee-house

32. Kept by one Moore - formerly a Ser=
-jeant of the army - I went to this house
because I understood that Walker's, the
head Inn in the market place was
most extravagant.

Staid in Kingston from Friday evng.
Feby 14th to Sunday Morning Feby
23rd principally on acct of my own
calamity in severely frost-bitten
face having had the wind, with
severe weather, directly in my front
all the way up from Montreal
& partly on acct of two large wounds,
one on each shoulder of my horse
occasioned by the badness of his collar
belonging to the Fr. Canadian Harness
Mr in Montreal - another proof that
the best things are the cheapest in
the end - had I given 6 or 7 £
for a sett of Eng.h harness, how=
-ever plain, instead of 10 dollars for
some comm.n Canad.n I might have
saved these wounds & much mo
=ney — for I had now to give
£4:5:— to boot, in exchange with
mine for another sett — made
here —

- After some pains in my enquiry
I find the inhabitants of Kingston
i.e. the Civilians, may amount
to 3000 - & the Military - Naval

Engineer - artillery - Storekeepers de-
partment, &c - with all public
offices, &c - to 2000 more making
fully 5000 in the whole - as
is the utmost that they can be
computed at - A number of Blacks &
people of colour - accounted for by reason
of slaves running away from the
States & taking refuge - I observed
a number all along the frontier -
some of them very impudent - Begin
to see almost as many Yankees
as Canadians - The Americans rapidly
acquiring a peculiarity of countenance
such an one too as validates the
Canon of physiognomy - such an
one as the shrewdness & natural
sagacity of their minds, as it generally
is the case, might be supposed to im-
part - with regular, bold & pointed
features - the nose generally aquiline
or straight - projecting - with an acute
point the chin likewise projecting
thin lips - high retreating forehead
sallow complexion or inclining
that way & keen eyes - Generally
very tall & mostly handsome men
- Perhaps their high stature may
be in some measure accounted for
by their general good living - eating
meat & other nutritious viands

34. Three times a day from early life which must have some effect. Few people, perhaps none, are more disagreable in their manners than the lower class of Yankees by whom Upper Canada is inundated.

— Streets of Kingston laid out with much regularity but the houses, as yet are very straggling & very few in the market place. Not paved. Therefore in dreadful state in wet weather. There is a small covered place for shambles in ye market place abt 20 yards long altogether. There did not appear to me to be quite 10 Stone houses for 100 wooden ones. perhaps one third of the whole two stories high. many, ye greater part, of the wooden ones clap-boarded & painted white with green doors & shutters & outside venetian blinds. Since I entered U. C. observed sash windows as in Engd throughout the lower province, with very few exceptions. windows open from top to bottom like folding doors in ye French fashion. most of the good wooden houses & stores built on stone foundations. Town-lots of ground within these few years i.e. 6 or 7 might have been purchased for £20 each. I fancy they are now, as much only as will be sufficient for a house to stand on as £100 at least. but

none are to be had. House rent 35.
very high - I saw one small house
with two rooms only that lets for
60 to 70 £ pr Ann:- Place improv
-ing very rapidly - Six years ago Point
Henry was a thick forest - it
has now a very strong fort that
commands the harbour & town
it is of stone with two remarka
-bly fine & effective martello - tow
-ers & guns - & is cleared of
wood all round - Kingston might
be rendered very secure - but to
surround it with regular fortifi
-cations on any side will be
very expensive - It is stockaded all
round the land side, with block
-houses at the angles - Covers
altogether much ground - The
70th Regt nearly 1000 strong - at
present lies here - Naval de
-partment numerous - Two large
ships & carvy abt 100 guns each
on stocks - The St Lawrence of
110 guns lies behind Fort Henry
in the ice - The Regent Several
large ships in dock - A Schoon
with a pennant lies between Fort
Frederick & the town in the
ice from whom Signals are
occasionally made - On the
whole has quite the air of an

36. important, thriving place - Capt. Owen here employed in sounding & surveying the waters of the river amongst the Thousand Isles - & all the Lakes - will be employed on the whole for 4 years in y Undertaking - Has already made discoveries which had they been known before the late war might have been the means of capturing or destroying the whole American navy in this part - Ignorance of Brit: Gov.t at home, respecting this country altogether wonderful & incomprehensible -

Here I have witnessed for y first time the curious practice of cutting y larger silver coin into halves or triangular pieces - quarters & eighths to make smaller change - for instance a shilling into halves. to make Sixpence - Twenty-four also to make 9d or a Dollar into 4 quarters to make Twenty-four pieces - 'Tis said some of the soldiers have the knack of cutting a Dollar into 5 pieces so as frequently to impose a fifth instead of a fourth in payment - Yankee coppers very numerous & a great nuisance being so very far below their value - I found the charges, especially for horses

keep, in Kingston very extravagant 5/ ℔ diem for hay only - which is now selling in the market for 30 dollars ℔ Ton - but this charge is unconscionable - in some houses 5/6 & 6/ for hay are charged It cost me, for myself & horse abt 18/ ℔ diem at Moore's coffee house - To travel by land just now in this country requires a good purse well stored - I had no idea that the expense cd have been so great 'till I came hither - A-mongst my ways & means to meet this serious charge - make a part of my garden seeds with fine name into 12 male packages to be charged 6 dollars each - leaves them for sale with Smith Bartlet - a merchant of this place - If you employ a mechanic to do the most trifling thing - the most extra-vagant charge is made - without the alteration made in the shafts of my carriage - 2 dollars for thinning them a little! -

- Went out on Monday the 17th to see the Kingston Mills now working by W. Hamilton who built the Hawks-bury Mills on the Ottawas - At present only two pairs going - but is

38. abt & set the corn-mill also at work - plenty of business - The mills but small valued with the 800 acres belong'd to them at 4000 ds - Situation good at the head of Kingston bay - with a good running water - 6 miles distant from the town - Rule of charge most common is to take half the timber brought for cutting the rest - As I returned to town shot a Blue-Jay & Two Canadian Titmice Mr Hamilton has agreed with two Yankees to clear 15 acres of his land near the mills on ½ fallow terms - they are to cut the wood fit for firing into cords for which, in piles by the water side, ready for market, they are to have ½ of the cord - they are to sow the ground with Oats & fence it with a snake-fence 7 bars high & have 8 dollars ℔ acre for the clearance, fencing, sowing &c - Mr H - finds the teams & seed-corn — Teams of Oxen are much used in this country - One Yoke - i.e. Two good Oxen are worth abt 100 dollars or £25 - curry - A good milk-cow at present is worth 25 or 26 dollars ——

Kingston a very gay, dashing, little place - several handsome equipages double sleighs & cariols - with fine blood like american horses - the truth is there are very fine horses now bred in the States particularly in Virginia on acct of having had so many fine English Stallions over - I can remember when Phenomenon & Grey Diomed with others went - The little horses, like mine, of the Lower Prov^ce universally stiled French horses in the U. Province are right & proper - Marked & continually increasing difference between the Upper & Lower Province - General indifference of the lower classes in the former to the Brit: Government - very little society except amongst the military in K - One small but poor circulating library & another no better worth forming - a few Mississaqua Indians almost daily come into town & sell venison - or baskets or brushes made of reeds with it & sweep miserable looking wretches & the squaws generally painted with red vertical streaks from their eyes downward - most ungracious - ungainly walk - no dignity —

40- No direct conveyance for letters at present from K to N. York obliged to send my letter for Charlotte round by Montreal - wrote likewise to Shaw armour - agreeing to take Befferis land.

Sunday Feby. 23rd } Left Kingston in further pro
: secution of my journey be
: tween 1 & 2 o' clock - Can
see nothing of L. Ontario as yet
the view being obstructed by the large
islands at its entrance - My intention
to get to one Capt^n Fralicks' an
inn 20 miles from K, to sleep - Pass
thro a good deal of poor forest
land uninviting - yet this land ra
: pidly encreasing in value - Stopped
at one Odell's an inn - 11 miles
from K - This place lately pur
chased for 3300 Dollars - yet the
house is a miserable one - the
barn little better - & only abt. 50
acres badly cleared & badly fenced -
with 150 acres more in its wild
state - but the land poor - This
is one of the dearest places, I
mean the highest valued, I have
seen in Canada - Very little land
cleared - tho' all taken up - between
K & Capt^n F's - road generally bad
& the farming bad. except in
one instance - Fralicks inn by

no means so good as represented. 41.
full of people obliged to take em
with Cider. Yankees of no agree-
-able cast - many of them coming up
the country to settle - The kind of
freedom & manner amounting to down-
right impertinence & great mixture of
rank & person - in Yankee inns or
where Yankee customs are prevalent is
extremely disagreable to an Englishman
Indelicacy too prevails - recent Lemon pulls
girls shawking & spitting about the room
occasionally scratching scrubbing them-
selves - Lounging in attitudes in their
chairs - in a way that in Britain
wd be unpardonable - & throwing out
more than broad hints, occasionally
as to the sexual intercourse - There
were several sets of American settlers
coming into U. C. one to settle at
Puffins creek - the other family nr.
Amherstburgh - In fact the Yankees of
late & be invading the country at all
points no with standing 'tis said they
cannot now hold lands in Canada
If this country is taken by them
it will be during peace - Value
of Land in this vicinity, uncleared,
from 5 to 10 dollars according to qua-
-lity & situation - am glad to find
that good female country servants
all about the Bay of Quinté are not
difficult to procure - Wages about 5
dollars, or 6 £ month - found in

- very thing - The first concession of lands on the Lake between this & Kingston not considered as good as the 3rd & 4th concession on which horses & cattle can get a living during winter in the woods by scratching away the snow with their feet so long is the frost but it is by the means of cattle in the spring on the Lake where there is most stony poor ground -

Monday Feby. 21st } Pursuing my journey this day find the land generally poorer than I expected - & by far the greatest part in wild forest - Lost my way for abt a mile by watching the road straightforward when I ought to have turned off at a right angle into a very fine wood of Oak &c a few miles before I came to the neat little village of Ought to be guided Watts in such situations - Passed a number of neat, thriving, farms until I came to the reservation for the Mohawk Indians - 12 miles square - through which the road passes for 12 miles - stopped at an Inn, such as it was, in the midst kept by a Bastard Indian who had

his home full of Squaws & Indian children — This reservation is looked at both with envious & jealous eyes by the white settlers around about who think it hard that the Indians shd hold so fine a tract in the heart of their settlements & make no other use of it than to hunt — & I fancy it is so often hunted over that but little game can be found in it — These Indians are some of the Mohawks who came from the Mohawk river in the State when peace was made after the revolutionary war — & I fancy are very rapidly diminishing in numbers — They are much more comely in their persons & dress than the Mississaguas — In this Indian reservation I saw a large black woodpecker with white on the wings — as large as large as the Great B. W. P. Woodpecker shd — I could not get a shot at it — I also saw 4 birds feeding on the berries of some low trees that I felt assured were cross-bills — as they were just the same size & colour but I was not near enough to see whether the bill croped or not — tho' thick — If not cross bills as I believe they were — they were Exactly the same as I saw by Lake St. Francis

Francis - I wish much to ascertain this matter as the Crop-bill is a short-winged bird & could not crop a nide o corn - Birds nests begin to be more numerous in the forests the farther I proceed it is therefore probable that the summer-birds are much more numerous in Upper than in Lower Canada - I observed too a small kind of Bees or wasps nest frequently hang from the end of boughs of trees at a considerable elevation above the ground - Their nests were round - & about twice or 3 times as large as a large apple formed on the outside much of the same material as are the wasps nests built in gooseberry bushes in England - I saw a great many of these as I journeyed along this country by the road side some of them 30 or 40 feet from the ground & generally at the extremity of small branches or in the forks of small branches near their extremities - Towards the head of the bay of Quinté there are many Engl. farmers settled who are considered as people of capital & quite independent - I passed many neat & good farms near Myer's Creek - but their system of ragged snake-fencing & the numerous stumps of trees left on the ground deprives the country of that

soft & finished appearance to be seen every where in the old country. At Myers creek a town is rapidly forming - there are already from 40 to 45 houses - some of them good ones. Put up at an excellent tavern for the present state of the country kept by one Lewis, 8 years standing, who has also a farm & a store. Uncleared land in this neighbourhood thought to be cheap at 10 dollars if of good medium quality - There are 4 mills here - two saw - mills & two grist - mills - several new stores buildings - Place seems flourishing - Number of inhabitants between 2 & 300 Has received the name of Belleville, I believe to named by the present Governor Gore, & from henceforward is to be called by that name - regular town lots were marked out last year - & as it is well situated on a good mill - stream on the Bay of Quinté with good water communication with Kingston - we may expect to see it a place of note shortly - Looking of the river Trent which falls into the head of this bay & of Rice - Lake above - my landlord Lewis, produced a quantity of the

46. wild rice which he had bought from the Indians who had procured it in the Lake. The Landlady said that it make a very rich & palatable soup - & that it was better in soup than any way else - it is of a very dark colour - nearly black long in the grain - some of the grains being nearly half an inch long - sharp pointed at both ends in the husk it looks much like an oat-grain - it has a sweet & much the same, taste as the east Indian rice common in the European & American markets but must certainly be a different species - I am told there are several salt-springs not only near Rice Lake but near the Trent between the Lake & Bay of Quinte - It is probable I think that rock-salt might be found in these places on digging deep enough - which might hereafter be found of great utility to the country - Salt from the States is now worth abt 4 $ the bushell - Flower is now high 12 dollars ℔ barrel - but I understand that there is not only plenty of wheat in this neighbourhood but the last season, which failed in

so many other places produced the 47. heaviest & best grain ever seen in this quarter. Staves, Pot-ash & bread Flower are the chief exports at present from this part of the Bay. In collecting Mr Rob[t] Armours lands at Amelias burgh on P. Edwards nearly opposite to Myers brook at Belleville I enquired respecting the value of lands so situated & I found they would be very cheap at 4 or 5 dollars an Hy supposed he would be worth 10 dollars up there & in that part I spend an agreable evening in this comfortable Inn quite as comfortable as an English Inn

Tuesday Feby. 25th } Pursued my journey immediately after breakfast & Breakfast & Tea throughout this country as in the State meal fish preserves &c as was formerly the case in Scotland, even in my time constantly brought present price for this meal here with all these additions is generally 2/6 Riding along the Bay of Quinte is very like riding along the banks of a fine majestic river seldom being wider than from 1 to 3 miles with various turns & windings for upwards of 60 miles from Kingston approaching the mouth of the Trent I was

48. falls into the Bay of 2 - 12 miles above Myers's Creek - I found some very fine timber in the forest & the ground began to undulate considerably & the tracks of Deer's feet in the snow numerous - The Trent must have a good deal of romantic scenery on its banks as the land rises up its course & it is full of rapids - near of its distance from Rice Lake with some falls in one place upwards of 20 feet high - which stop the progress of the Salmon in that direction - There is a tolerable inn at each side of the mouth of the river - with two or three farm houses - The river at its mouth did not appear to me to be more than a quarter of a mile at the utmost - if so much - as I crossed it on the ice - Having gained the opposite bank or Western bank I ascended a hill & entered into a thick forest of very fine Pine & Timber trees - some of those called Norway Pines were indeed magnificent from 100 to 150 to 180 - & occasionally, perhaps, to 200 feet perpendicular height - There I saw innumerable masts for

the largest ships - I should imagine quite equal to any that could be procured from the north of Europe - At this place I shall, & not till now could I say that I saw what could not be mistaken as such, I shall enter into what might strictly be termed Alluvial Lands with considerable & regular undulations & a sandy soil - Tracks of wild animals numerous - The day fine & the scenery of the finest description of forest scenery - Met two Natives & an Iguana carrying something to market - made signs for them to continue in the road - but their diffidence, or what they mean to shew as respect for White persons I rank as such as they suppose to be of rank w^h not permit them - As soon as they descry a person of this description they get out of the road however deep may be the snow & stand at some distance on one side - like statues or as extended or upstalled

creatures. You seldom see these people laugh or smile except when drunk & they will part with anything they have for rum — When alarmed young Iguanas make a kind of querulous, twittering noise very like what one would expect a mild animal to emit — perhaps when very violently alarmed they may scream outright — but 3 Iguanas that I chased by moonlight in Kingston several times round about a ruined house — continually made the noise I mean whenever I was near catching one of them — It was very much, if not exactly like, what I have frequently heard young Turkies make — Journeying along thro' the forest I cd not help frequently remarking the exact resemblance borne by the barks of most of the trees & the scales of serpents — hence making deduction as to the wisdom of Providence in rendering the larger snakes so little discernable from the boughs of trees thereby facilitating the taking of their prey — The road was very rough & bad — partly owing to the rifting of the snow & partly to fallen & decayed trees — sometimes I passed under regular arches formed by trees bent across the road over my head — which had grown too tall for their strength & their tops had bent down to the earth — People make many stones hereabouts

Though the settlements are thinly scattered the sound of the axe in the silence of the forest produces many echoes & a wild effect not unaccompanied by melancholy emotions for which perhaps it might not be difficult to account —

Very few of the little Taverns by the way side have any malt liquor tho there is a brewery at Myers creek — & those that have any sell it my Glass of a pint — Spirits are cheap enough but it is remarkable that throughout this country from Kingston upwards — they make a distinction between rum unwatered & rum watered in the puncheon — If you ask for a glass of rum — they bring rum that has been adulterated or made kind by the mixture of abt 1/3 water in the puncheon — if you ask for a glass of spirits — they bring rum as imported —

Being now on the shores of Lake Ontario — I was unable to see it's water by reason of the thickness of the forest — I found a regular continuation of alluvial lands — but how far they extend northwards into the country I know not — their heights pleasing & gentle undulations — break the uniformity of the prospect & render it much more picturesque

52- These hights are rounded much like the hills of Hampstead - Highgate &c - & have a great deal of sand in their composition - some are formed entirely of sand - All are covered with forest trees of almost every kind - A large Fox trotted along the road before me for more than a mile but he would not let me get near enough to obtain a shot at him - The want of snow in many parts of the road made it very heavy dragging for my Carride & it was late when I arrived at Dr Brown's inn - a solitary house - To my sorrow to full of people that I could not get a bed unless I consent to sleep in a room with nine beds in it filled with Yankees - the Landlord Dr B. who looked very like one of our inferior Yorkshire Farriers repeatedly assured me they were all gentlemen before their faces - which I much doubted by my looks &c - I refused to take up my quarters here tho' my little horse Toby was tired with a sore shoulder - Determined to push on 3 miles further to a house kept by one Brown - The Yankee phraseology is droll enough in some particulars they call a hawker or pedlar or carrier or any ordinary person whatever a gentleman - but one who has really some pretensions to that character they term a man - I think the majority of the people now resident in Brattleboro

in Upper Canada are Americans - i.e from the U. States - Arrived at Grover's Inn near the extremity of Haldimand district towards Hamilton - made out the journey of this day fully 20 miles. Found Grover a one-eyed, dark complexioned very shabby & suspicious looking fellow - & drunk withal - very loquacious very consequential in his own eyes - Settled here 15 years ago when there was not a soul within many miles of him - Pulled out a piece of paper with much affectation of secrecy & shew me it proved to be a commission from Gov: Gore appointing him Captain of Militia - could not help congratulating myself on those religious principles which must forever preclude any service with or under such officers - The Land round this place very good worth 10 dollars uncleared - often sow grass seeds with their wheat which is found to answer - make good pasturage or mea- dow the following year - This place only 1½ mile from the Lake Ontario & which good carriage - Plenty of good water here (but not large enough for a mill) that never freezes - This is a consideration of great importance & value - Shewed me a small Library of religious books in a cupboard in my bed-room with an air of great triumph - glad to see it - tho' doubtful

5th. as to the benefit he derived from their perusal for I did not like his manners nor the continual surprize he expressed at my travelling alone in such a country. I was frequent interrogatory whether I was not afraid of being robbed & murdered — in faith I might be both & no one be the wiser — as he lifted my portmanteau into my bed room remarked on its weight saying it must be full of money — I did not like his manner of handling & pointing my double-barrelled gun — which was dubious. Bed room however was very comfortable with a cheerful blazing fire on the hearth of maple wood — I fastened the door & committed myself to repose — & to the protection of the Divine Being whom I have so frequently & so grievously offended

Wednesday } A glorious morning served
July 26th } to remove many of the disagreable impressions made on the preceding evening. My landlord sober was a very superior man, as may be readily supposed to my landlord drunk — amongst other things at breakfast had finely preserved plums which were grown at this place & were preserved in Maple Sugar. Excellent. The farmers here, who have any kind of management are certainly a most industrious race of men — they

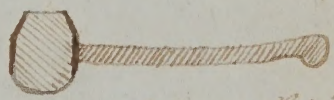
have plenty of every thing within themselves - This man repeated that a tolerably sized maple tree readily yields 5 lbs of good sugar - I find there are now several regular manufactories of this article in the United States where the sugar is refined into loaves - Both Bears & Wolves are common in this neighbourhood - Bears are considered pretty much as harmless animals unless wantonly provoked - but wolves do a great deal of mischief - my landlord shewed me a spot in his folds-yard close to his house where he had had a favourite sheep killed & eaten entirely up but a few nights ago - Two years ago he had 25 sheep he has now but two - notwithstanding all the pains he could take to preserve them - the rest being devoured by wolves - As he seems a kind of leading man in the vicinity I recommended him to propose an annual hunt for the purpose of destroying these animals - a whole parish or district to unite, & surrounding a certain tract of wood - gradually contract towards the centre of the circle & destroy all the noxious animals as they attempted to escape I am persuaded that by such means & holding out small premiums to

56 The Indians for Wolfs heads or skins
these creatures might be exterminated
in populous district in a few years
A friend of mine in Montreal (W. Hall)
mentioned that on once penetrating
the forest a few years ago - in a wild
& difficult part on a hunting ex-
-cursion - the silence of the wilder-
-ness was suddenly disturbed, & him-
-self affrighted, by the most terrible
uproar he had ever heard as if, to
use his own expression - 'all Hell had
been let loose around him' - The
fact was he had walked into
the midst of a pack, & not a
small one of sleeping wolves - nearly
treading upon some of them before
he was aware - instantly a howl,
that may perhaps be conceived but
certainly not described, from hundreds
of gaunt & hungry sides issued from
the brush wood all around - He
instantly climbed a tree & actually
shot several of the animals from
his elevated post — My Landlord
observed that the ashes from one
of his fires alone were worth 1/3
every 24 hours consumption of wood
for the manufacture of Pot-ash -
Plenty of lime-stone all around
the Lake - This man has a
clever, managing wife - who makes
excellent cheese & butter amongst other

thing - But little Cheese is made in U. C. most of it comes from the States & is sold nearly at the price of English Cheese - A young man came in to be hired as a School-master for the vicinity. It seems there is much want of School-masters in the Province - Grover & a gentleman who came in, a neighbour, whom I called Major - agreed with this young man for 18 dollars & month - to teach for 6 hours a day & be found with board - Government allows 100 dollars a annum - towards the expence of these country Schoolmasters which is a great help to the people - On enquiry I found that a person might contract to have his lands cleared for 15 dollars, or £3. 15. currency, an acre - with a snake fence 7 bars high included - much of this expence may be saved by keeping a store - where the situation is favourable & selling the clearers such articles as they want as Groceries, Tobacco, Rum, &c - or by making Pot-ash - I am now quite convinced, however unsightly is the appearance of the stumps, that the American method of clearing lands

at peril, by cutting the tree some 2 feet from the ground is the best - no one who never tried can have any idea of the labour & difficulty of taking up the root of a full grown oak tree. I understand the reason why there are so many fine tracts of uncleared land along the north shore of L. Ontario proceeds from their belonging to absent proprietors in England & elsewhere who will not sell under a certain price or who have no agent empowered to act - As luck about Hastings, after having much difficulty in getting a shoe made for my horse for one he had lost in consequence of the only Blacksmith in the neighbourhood having too much business, a party of Indians came up with baskets, brushes, & other things to sell - they were modest & unassuming in their manners & seeing a stranger whom they imagined to be of distinction in the yard - did not approach for some time each being one of their modes of paying respect - some of the children were pretty with the Window cast of features, notwithstanding they were Chippewa Jays whom I have in general remarked to be more ordinary in their features than the other tribes with small eyes - large bold nose & wide mouths - they are considered a wandering tribe - The Mohawks are sedentary - except on hunting parties

My landlord bought a brace of partridges from these people for a single glass of rum — which cost him about 1½ — These partridges by the bye were the species of Grous with a rough neck & legs feathered a little but not much below the knees — with remarkable fibres thickly set along each side of the toes to support them on the snow — This is the species that makes the curious, loud, drumming noise in Spring — I found the Major of great use in forwarding me the shoeing of my horse, as the blacksmith lived on his land — & also in altering a certain part of my harness — had great ingenuity — a man in fact in such situations must be a Jack-of-all-trades. An anvil being wanted I particularly admired the readiness with which he struck an american axe, lying near, into a log of wood — & made a capital little anvil with its head — The form of the American axe is



greatly superior to that commonly in use in England — something of this kind

I found the Major kept a store — was a farmer — & had been a member of the Provincial Parliament — He declared himself to be very loyal — tho' an American & the Traveller's friend — This country

is considered generally in Europe as Savage & wild & uncultivated & barbarous & perhaps so it is, comparatively with all the refinements, comforts & luxuries of the age as known & felt in England but it has been impossible for me not unfrequently & draw comparisons between travelling at the present day in the Canadas & what it was in England barely 100 years ago - when Engd had for centuries been rising from darkness & barbarism into light & comfort & wealth & power & luxury And the comparison is almost inconceivably in favour of Canada so great are the advantages of new countries in the present day in being able & supply what old countries want & select in return what has been found by experience & be good & useful - In the memory of old persons with whom I have conversed people used & make their wills on commencing a journey even from York & London - between the two Capitals of the country at that time - so dangerous & tedious was it considered - A fortnight was the time required & pass between the two cities - & of the accomodation on the road we can say nothing - In Canada in the midst of primeval forests the same distance might easily be performed in 4 days with every comfort - where 20 years

ago may not more than 15
There was scarcely a house
I have seen within the last day or
two but most people riding on horse
-back which I never once saw in
Lower Canada - as a mode of trav
-elling - This has put me more in
mind of the old country than any
thing, except the language since
my arrival - & I am glad to see
it - This day was most delight
-ful - like fine summer weather
as I felt, or rather my horse
it severly as it cleared away & thaw
from many part of the road &
rendered the sleighing very heavy -
Passed thro' the village of Hamilton
several handsome new frame hous
Two of them Tavern - one the last
kept by a Medical man who
attends the surrounding country as
Doctor - A flourishing town likely
to arise here - Good Mill & Court
house - Soon after leaving this from
a height had a fine view of the
Lake over the tops of trees - & exactly
the appearance of the ocean - but
of a deeper blue - This might be
owing to the bright azure of the
cloudless sky - Alluvial land, fine
some what
constitution - rich, generally but poorer as
I came down into Smiths creek
15 miles from Grovers Inn where I
slept last night - Finding my horses

62. Shouldn very much grieved & knowing that this place is the nearest to the Rice Lake, which I want much to see, of any I have to pass I resolved to stay here all night. Took a walk whilst tea was preparing up the Creek into the forest. The forests of Canada the finest place in the world for the study of monsters & singularities in the growth of Trees a set of drawings of Lusus Naturae of this kind, would make a very curious & interesting work. but all are not natural that occur. in some remote places where the Indians pass it is not uncommon to find young trees tied into knots by the young squaws. out of playfulness, which grow as the tree grows. 'tis a very remarkable effect is produced. as knots of this kind may sometimes be seen of vast magnitude in large trees at a great height from the ground. which had been made when the tree was young. Black Squirrels are not uncommon in this neighbourhood. the common little Squirrel is also frequent. but the Grey is rare An evening walk in a retired part of a Canada Forest when the weather is gloomy & lowering produces a striking & solemn effect on the mind

as the wind rises it sweeps in
deep & long drawn sighs through the
lofty tops of the pines - swelling into
deeper tones amongst the more umbrageous trees - & sometimes rising into
a wild howl - whilst the falling
of ancient trunks - no longer able
to brave the storm crashing down
others in their way creates a noise
it w^d be difficult to convey a notion
by description - but which can be heard
reverberated in echoes from the
depths of the forest on every side -
I heard the note of a strange bird
but could not find it - In the inn
at Smith's Creek I found the wings
of a large Brown Eagle which had
been brought in by one of the Aborigines - say a Flinders from the neighbourhood of the rice lake - which might
have been either the Sea or Golden
Eagle - I could not tell which - after
plucking out the larger quills
to make pens of - the landlady
used the remaining pt of the wings
for dusters - I wrote a good deal
with a pen made of one of these
quills in this note book - one
good quill of this kind quite equal
to a swan's quill - Many of the
country people in these parts wear half
undyed of their natural drab or brown
colour - which with the variety of

64. features & complexion & uncouth dress - offers a good school of subjects for the picturesque portrait - painter. A very good mill - stream of fine pure water flows down Smith's - Creek. This village so called from one Smith now living here who came to this spot exactly 20 years ago & built a house & mill - it was y^e commencement of the settlement - It has not increased rapidly tho' a very pretty & excellent situation - pretty from the romantic inequality of y^e ground & fine views of the great Lake - Excellent from the good water being one of the very few harbours for schooners & small craft on this side the Lake - yet on account of the back country being so thinly settled - it has not increased so much as might have been looked for - At present I could count no more than 15 houses of which two are inns - I stay at that y^e is kept by one Choat - who is adding to it - Price of land round about the vicinity from 3 to 4 dollars - (unclear) my landlord has just bought 400 acres abt a mile up the Creek for 1400 dollars to pay in 5 years - Town-lots & streets have been lately marked out in the village - Price of a town-lot, consisting of one acre or

thereabouts - is 100 dollars - with time
years to pay it in - Terms easy enough
for the sake the convenience of purcha-
-sers Little Farms of 15 & 16 acres each
may likewise be had close to the
town at the rate of 15 dollars p/acre
I was agreably surprised to find that
the inhabitants had commenced a
small public library - by a subscrip.
of 5 dollars each - but they have not
as yet more than from 150 to 200
of books - Most of the people through
-out the line of country I have
passed thro' since I left Kingston
are dissenters from the C of England
& Methodists are the most numer
-ous - It is remarkable that I
have not in all this distance
seen a single church - a great
contrast this to the Lower Pro.
where the glittering spires of the
Fr: Churches occur in every vil
-lage - The people here generally agree
that there is a periodical rising
& falling, besides what is occasioned
by the winds, in the waters of
the great Lake Ontario - tho' this
belief is acknowledged to be deri
-ved from a very old Indian Tradi
-tion - persons differ as to the term
tho the greatest number agree
to the number of 7 years - As one
proof certain alterations take place
along the line of coast that it would

66. be well if persons navigating the Lake were acquainted with - one instance has recently occurred within something less than a mile eastward of this same Smiths Creek where an excellent harbour for schooners has opened - which was compleatly closed up a few years ago - boats can now always put in there when they could not get into Smiths Creek - but the want of proper land marks renders it difficult for strangers to find it - since the greatest part of the coast by much is one continued forest -

Thursday Feby. 27th } So violent a snow storm came on this morning that I cd not with any prudence proceed on my journey in any direction - I may here once for all remark that this winter is considered the most severe that ever occurred within the memory of the oldest inhabitant - yet the shores of Lake Ontario are frozen but a very little way into the water - but on the smaller lakes backward the ice is nearly 2 feet thick - so many rapids are frozen up that were known to have been so before - Understand

that the common Canada or White Hare - universally called Rabbit in this country - is numerous in the wood bounds. the east side of St. Creek I took my gun in the evening & went in search of some - but the weather had been too stormy for any to venture out - their old tracks were abundant, intersecting each other in every direction - Black Squirrels are likewise very common in this wood, but none of the Canada animals stir out of their quarters during a storm or even when one is threatened in this respect they constitute certain signs - The only birds I saw & heard the stormy day were the common Titmice of the country - which are so little apprehensive I dare say, even after being shot at & wounded, as to allow an approach within a few yards - they seem a little amazed at the noise made by the gun upon such an occasion but that is all - a quick - lively, twittering, pleasing little bird - Great plenty of excellent Limestone on this part of the lake - Building materials & handy workmen - both of the had -

Friday
Feby 28th

Set out on horseback & find my way to Rice Lake morng delightful. The Squirrels were out of their holes sunning themselves & the birds were all upon the alert. Several new farms are forming in the back concessions but it is not a populous part tho the land is good. There is no farm farther back than 6 miles from Lake Ontario in this direction. an Irishman of the name of Gohean lives upon it it is on the 5th or 6th concession as I think & is two miles from any other house. He has been there 2 years at first found it solitary & melancholy now quite reconciled & happy. Beyond this house a wild but very picturesque & even beautiful forest. Difficult to make out a road. Shot a Specimen of the volatile Woodpecker. Heard the notes of several new birds. Saw a small Woodpecker like the Least W. of England. Tracks of wild animals, & amongst them several of wolves, numerous. The ground all the way to Rice Lake, the nearest part of which to Lake Ontario by the way of Smith's Creek is exactly 12 miles, is pleasingly undulated with Alluvial soil. many parts of the forest free from brush wood & other parts quite open. small & middle

sized oak - trees - the most nu-
-merous - few or no maple - some
pines & cedars - several fine situa-
-tions for houses & farms - land ge-
-nerally good - having lost my way
for about an hour, being without
any other guide than my own
geographical knowledge of the coun-
-try it was late in the afternoon
when I arrived at the Lake & went
upon the ice - At the first view
of the Lake it appeared long &
narrow with several beautiful
islands in the middle - I aimed
at that in the center called
by the Indians Sugar - Island from
the number of maples which
grow upon it & because they there
manufacture much sugar every
year - & went for a mile or
two upon the ice - but as the
whole scene, however interesting
& beautiful, appeared a vast uninha-
-bited solitude - an extraordinary
silence prevailed - no mark of
human foot - no appearance of any
human habitation & the evening
was fast approaching - I thought it
was hardly prudent in the pre-
-sent state of my health & having
no provisions with me to proceed

To I therefore turned back in order to regain Smiths creek before it was too late. I saw so many fresh tracks of Wolves just where the road comes upon the lake that I expected an attack from them every moment. I ought to mention that as yet there is no regular road to this interesting lake but only a winding way thro the forest made by the Indians & the family residing at the Indian village on the north side of the Lake. In the middle of the forest I met John Hubbard the Indian trader for Smith returning to his home the widow Harris is on the lake he wd gain that I should go back with him but it was too late I promised to go over & see the place tomorrow. I saw a curious little brown Corthia or Creeper on a Pine tree but could not get a shot at it.

Saturday March 9th. Rode over to the Rice Lake. The forest scenery between Lake Ontario & rice Lake is particularly beautiful. The ground is full of pleasing undulations in some places the forest is open in others groups of trees of various kinds & form meet & delight the eye. It closely resembles y finest park scenery in England but with a greater variety of trees. The first part of the rice Lake which is touched by the present road is

called 12 miles from Smiths Creek
it is certainly not more if it is so
much which I doubt - after entering
upon the Lake it is 6 miles further
to the log house where the Widow
Harris resides to trade with y Indians
I think it is situated on a neck of land
on the N East side of the mouth
of the river which falls into the
Lake - To go to it the best way is to
aim directly for Sugar Island in
the center of the Lake - which at
a distance appears high & round - It
is abt 10 miles from the place where
the ferried road strikes the Lake
towards its head - & is nearly entirely
covered with Sugar Maple Trees - It
belongs with all the other islands
of the Lake 15 in number - to the
Chippewa Indians & upon it they
make a considerable quantity of
sugar every spring - I found it
dry cold riding upon the ice
& it was fortunate for me
first discovered the traces of a
sleigh which had been across
to Mrs Harris's house a little
time found it difficult to find
as it is hid from any distant
view by a low point of land covered
with willows & other trees - beyond
& to the East of this Sugar Island
approaching from the head of the
Lake - It is on a wild & solitary shore

72 Sickness - poverty & death in this place sadly I have all the affliction in their power to the family now there - the recital has been to me affecting - The ice upon this Lake did not break up last year until the 27th of April & - and I find that it is generally fixed & capable even with carriages - until the second week in that month & has seldom been known to break up before the 20th What becomes of it seems unknown except it melts away gradually for it cannot go down the Bay of Quinte by the way of the Trent on account of the shallowness of that river in certain places & the nature of its descent from the Lake - It is observed, after breaking & move about from side to side of the Lake, that little if any remains by the end of the first week in May - It is a very beautiful Lake & put me strongly in mind of Windermere in Cumberland - Many which in many respects, particularly it islands & woods it is more lovely - Having water communication with the Bay of Quinte to the S. East & Lake Simcoe & Huron to the N. West - it must here after become of great commercial & agricultural importance - while

& contiguity with L. Ontario
gives additional value & importance
The shades of evening had spread
their dusky mantle over the surrounding scenery when I arrived at the Log
house on the Lake. Mrs M. was
absent but John Walker her son
and a Black man of the name
of Isaac who has lived all his
life amongst the Indians did all
in their power to make me comfortable. I had the tooth-ache violently & the house was not air
tight & I could not be so

Sunday March 2nd } The Indians of Rice Lake
are famous for the neatness &
excellence of their bark
canoes made from the bark of the
red birch tree. one of the value of
3 dollars will carry 2 men with
ease & will last with care for
5 or 6 years very well. They are
high & sharp at both ends have
many ribs in the inside & are
very neatly sewed. I saw 2 or 3
lying frozen in the ice on the
beach. The rice of this Lake grows
so thick that when the Indians
go in their canoes to take the
grain when ripe. they are obliged
to back out by the same chan-
nel by which they had forced

74. their way into it. It is supposed, & with reason, that 10,000 bushells of this wild rice might easily be obtaind in one season by a suitable number of hands - many single individuals as it is gain from 60 to 80 bushells - 3 of which the Indians gladly sell for a dollar - it makes excellent soup particularly with venison - The mode of taking it is simple - the Indians force their canoes into a bed of rice as far as they will go - each canoe has generally two persons in it for this purpose - one of them paddles, while the other with two short sticks - one in each hand - sweeps the rice stalks on each side & knocks the ripened grains into the canoe - when it is full they back out by the way they came in for the beds of rice are two thick & extensive to allow them to turn - The Squaws dry the rice, thus obtained, upon mats made of the inner rind of the bass-wood tree - which is well calculated for the purpose - Many Indians preserve a winter store of this rice by burying it in the ground in a dry situation - inclosed in cases made of

the bark of the red-birch tree.
I saw a pit of this kind upon
an island in this Lake. It may
be readily imagined that vast quan-
tities of wild fowl, ducks & geese
come to feed in this rich lake.
They do indeed come in such
numbers in spring & fall, but
especially the latter. That to use
the language of Malbert my first
informant. They make a noise
in rising like a clap of thunder
& the air is literally darkened by
their number. They sometimes get
so fat by feeding upon the rice
that they are unable to fly & are actually speared by the Indians
in the same manner as fish
are speared by them. These ducks
are frequently more than an inch
thick of fat all over. I find
that wild swans are scarce
Malbert has only seen one small
flock in 12 years. The rice will
grow in parts of the Lake that are
even 10 feet deep. I will raise its head
3 or 4 feet above the surface of the
water. The straw famous for thatch
the rice used for that purpose. Hundreds

of acres together are covered by the rice - The bottom of the Lake is covered with mud to a great depth - I could get no certain information as to the species of water fowl haunting the lake - many ducks breed here - particularly the beautiful kind called the Wood-duck - The Indians shoot the Harpers in their canoes steering their days to force the birds from the rushes before they can fly - Walker described a small whitish coloured bird that came to feed upon the rice when it was ripe - which here obtained the name of rice-bird - but I could learn nothing certain from his description - Water snakes are common - The Nymphæa alba & Lutea - The white & yellow water lily or Lotos - are also very common amongst the aquatic plants - The Bull rush & common Iris cover large tracts of the margin of the Lake to the great satisfaction of the Musk-rat who builds his house amongst them Although this beautiful & valuable Lake is in itself so rich as to the products necessary for human subsistence - The Indians who belong to it - are such wretched managers that they are obliged to go a quarter amongst the White people

as they term the European set-
-tlers, in the front of Lake Ontario
during the greater part of winter.
Yet the Lake provides fish, &
game, & rice, & sugar, almost
without limit. Salmon cannot
get up the Trent & this Lake
by reason of the falls in that
shallow & turbulent river - but
in the mouth of Smiths creek
they are abundant & excellent
In the Rice Lake the Muskelonge
make ample recompence for it is
a most delicious fish - very abun-
dant & frequently weighs from
30 to 60 lbs weight. Hares are
not quite so frequent upon the
margin of this Lake - tho' com-
mon as upon the front of Lake
Ontario near Smiths Creek. It is
very remarkable that neither Black
Squirrels nor Wolves have as yet
made their appearance upon the
West & West side of this Lake
while they are both frequent
on the east & south side of the
Lake. The Rattle-snake tho' not
frequently found on the Bay of Quinte
& also Jay & the muskrat on Lake
Erie - is unknown here. Mosquit

78. - toes - however - abound in myriads tho' but for a short time of y year. Deer are now very scarce in this vicinity - tho', only a few years ago, they were so plentiful that as many as 3,000 of their skins have been taken by the Indians belonging to this Lake in one year. There is but one species now found in this neighbourhood. I saw two of its horns at this house which are curved in a very remarkable manner. It appears to be the species called Caribou in the Lower Province - when the bucks run fast their horns lay back over their shoulders & their nose projects horizontally before them with open nostrils. Mrs Harris had two of them tamed at this house and to prevent their being killed by the Indians had bells fastened round their necks - but the dogs belonging to the Ind^s, which are almost as savage as wolves, destroyed them - It happened that one of Mrs Harris young boys saw a dog kill the last - he immediately went to the Indian camp and according to their own laws of retaliation demanded retributive justice although a favourite dog of real value

to his owner. The dog was instantly
without a word, flew up almost
as instantly, shot by the unprovoked
unsupported, blasting in face of a
whole camp. This is a striking in-
stance of the strictness with which
the Indians regard their laws of
retributive justice. The old law
of an eye for an eye & a tooth
for a tooth. The larger species of
deer are entirely destroyed. I understand
part of the horn of a large elk
the last of its kind in these parts
still lies upon the opposite shore
of the lake. I copied the follow-
ing returns of furs procured by the
Indians belonging to this Lake.
in the years 1808 & 1812 from an
old account book lying in this village

In 1808

894 Deer	22 Fawns
38 Bears	1 Wolverine
1989 Musk rats	1 Wild Cat
72 lbs of Beaver	
547 Martins	
102 Minks	
16 Raccoons	
98 Fishers	
61 Otters	in 1809 62 Otters
7 Foxes	

(This years return was not considered good)

The quantity of Maple Sugar purcha-
-sed from these Indians in y season
of 1810 was 1826 lbs. It is proba-
-ble they made nearly 3000 lbs in
weight as they use a considerable
quantity amongst themselves.

Rice Lake Factory in 1812 packd
on the first of June

6735 Musk Rats
* 800 Kittens
7535 Musk Rats old & young
137 Martins
63 Minks
59 Fishers
28 Racoons
2 Pichous (either Lynxes or Wild cats)
** 1 Fox
154 Deer
28 Otters
11 Bears
2 Cubbs
93 lbs of Beaver

* Kitten is the term given to young Musk
-Rats — ** The Fox is too cunning for y
Indns this is the reason why so few are
taken — altho' very numerous in reality

at the station on Mud-Lake, belongg to Smith of Smiths Creek - 12 miles above the 7 mile carrying place - the fallg trade for last year was deemd tolera-ble - more than 200 wt of Beaver & upwards of 4000 Musk Rats - besides other game - The weather was very cold this morning - the wind N. West blowing directly down the R. Trent which runs into Rice Lake a little below the widow Harris's house - I was told it wd be terrible work facing the wind upon the ice - but I had fixed with Halbert to go as far as the 7 mile carry & place this morng and accordingly we set out on a common train - drawn by one horse - crossd the neck of land behind the house for about a mile through a wood of oak & light soil - Set upon the river from 40 to 50 ft wide - most extraordinary winding course all the way or the greater part of the way - the place called the 7 mile carry & place is upwards of 20 miles - abt 2 or 3 & 20 above the Rice Lake - the river keeps a breadth of from 50 to 80 ft wide & appears deep 'till we get to the first rapids 2 or 3 miles below the carry place - its course so winding, particularly towards the Rice Lake that we appeard to face almost every point

of y^e compass - sometimes when we saw a particular grove of pine trees as we thought - immediately before us we afterwards found that they were 2 or 3 miles from us - saw a great many Musk-rat houses both to the right & left - on the ice - generally amongst or near rushes - appearance of those kind of little hay-cocks we call foot-cocks in England - on examination are found of moss & flags or rushes strongly matted together - forming a crust abt 3 Inches thick - half the space in the inside seems to be occupied by a bed of moss on which the animal reposes out of the water the other half by water covering the hole through the ice into the river by which it has ingress & egress - This animal may be frequently killed by shooting at the house before it is disturbed as shot will penetrate the matter covering - on hearing any alarming approach the animal instantly darts under the ice thro' the hole kept open for the purpose in his house - The species, in the more unfrequented parts of Canada is numerous beyond description - Beavers are still frequent in the little creeks running into this river - I saw many of the little alcoves on the ice

made by the Indians for the pur 83
-pose of spearing fish, & which appear to resemble with great exactness those described by Hearne as made by the Northern Indians beyond Hudsons Bay for a similar design - particularly the Indians who visit the Lake athapus
-co - The height of them is not above 2 feet - made over an hole in the ice, cut for the purpose, of hoops of willow, or other pliable wood left open on one side to receive the head & shoulders of the sports
-man or sportswoman - a blanket is thrown over the hoops to exclude the light so as to render the aim more certain - an artificial fish of a small size, called by the Mas
-Kelonge, is played about in the water with one hand - whilst a spear is held in the other - when a fish of any large size rises to the bait he is struck at & seldom missed - this is a very certain method used by the Indians during winter - Many parts of this river reminded me of the poetic description of the Styx - shaded by a thick & interminable solitude of forest trees - Dark - silent - & remote Musquitoes abound in summer - it is

mill calculated to foster them - It first are very numerous & of superior quality. We left our train at the first rapid & before we commenced our walk took a little refreshment - wanting some ties for a pair of snow shoes I was pleased to see the readiness with which Talbert went to a Bass-wood tree & stripping off the outer-bark took as much of the inner rind as was necessary for the purpose - this material is excellent for any thing of the kind - tough & pliant - the Indians use it for a great many purposes - Cutting thro the ice with our axe & procured water for ourselves & horse found that it was 18 Inches thick - This was the first time of my life in which I made an attempt to walk in snow-shoes - & this day I walked abt 20 miles in them - I found them of great utility & intend to get a pair forthwith - Found a series of most capital mill-seats just below the Carry Place & for some space above them - also two beautiful little Lakes - one of them quite round - very deep & not above a mile in diameter close to the Carry Place - surrounded by lofty Pine trees - I was very much pleased with the beauty - the wildness & solitude of the place - There are several very pleasing & fine situations for houses & mills. To a man wishing to retire for ever from the world this is the spot - I can only hear of two gentlemen

Capts. Sherwood & Anderson who have ever been up this way - & it is but seldom passed by the Indians At this place is a very remarkable bend of the river said to be from 70 to 75 miles round from the Mud-Lake to the place where the portage by inland by croping over the isthmus or carry[illegible] place - which is abt. 6 or 7 miles across - scarcely 7 miles - that great distance is sand - a very good road might easily be made across this place if necessary, as there is scarcely any swamp & only 2 small creeks - & the forest is pretty open or clear from brushwood - a piece of very fine natural Park - scenery of nearly a mile in extent - with a fine rounded eminence for a house - occurs immediately on rising from the river onto the carry[illegible] place - opposite to which are a few low marshy islands covered with trees & by which runs a rapid - this part is chiefly what is termed an oak-plain interminded with a few pines - the greater part might be ploughed immediately without the expence of clearance from heavy timber - immediately behind this beautiful little tract is a ridge of pines (white pines) of good growth - & beyond them a large tract of hard wood land - Beech & Sugar Maple - This carry[illegible] place

would make a noble estate for any gentleman who has interest to procure it. Game abounds. We saw many partridges, as they are here termed & Deer are pretty numerous. By drinking of some stagnant water here in consequence of excessive thirst by eating of salt meat at my lunch on the river I got a severe dysentery for the remainder of the day & I found my trouble some & painful in my walk back to the train. We found some of the little trains sent by the Indians for carrying their game at this place in the wood. The Indians are remarkable for their honesty Malbert said that if a party of them found our train on the river where we left it. they wd not touch a single thing in it. This little carrying place would make a very good station for a man concerned in the Indian trade for Peltry & I understand the Indians themselves, are desirous of a station here. besides this place there is only about a mile & a half or two miles of portage by land between Rice Lake & Lake Simcoe. If the navigation of Trent between the Rice Lake & the Bay of Quinte was improved this should be the line of communication between Kingston & Lake Huron as the general line is pretty exactly North West. At some

future Day, it is most probable, this route will be open & frequent - The whole tract of country for upwards of 100 miles between the Lakes of Rice & Simcoe is of the first quality - & there is reason to believe that in some places it is rich in minerals. From the Crowe river the Indians brought a piece of fine Galena wch yielded upwards of 50 ℔ Cwt of pure Silver - but they wd. not point out the precise place where it was found. It was midnight when we got back to the log-house on Rice Lake almost petrified with cold.

Monday March 3rd } The Indians of the Rice Lake can still muster 40 war-riors for the field - such as they are - but the Chippaways are generally cowards - I find the present chief, who is a very young man, not more than 18 or 19, a son of the famous young Crowe, is deemed the greatest orator amongst all the Indians of Canada - I hear much of his powers of elocution & mean to take an early opportunity of hearing them - On enquiry after any other species of Deer besides those generally common I could hear of no traces further than part of a remains of a large pair of Elks's or Moose Deer

88. bones still lying upon the shore of the Rice Lake but where they came from or when does not appear to be clearly ascertained - Mallett shewed me the grave of a young Indian who was killed by an accident & was buried just behind this house - two youths were playg - with a gun (loaded) in the house - it went off accidentally & killed one of them - the father of the dead Indn was not satisfied - the father of the living youth who occasioned the misfortune, however unwillingly, was fearful of retaliation - Blood must be had for blood - He immediately caused a costly robe of Beaver skins, of the most valuable kind to be made - he carried it to the father of the deceased & made an aration - suitable to the occasion - offering the robe as a peace-offering - It was accepted - If it had been refused the blood must have been expiated in a more serious manner - but it was considered as an accident - tho' requiring a palliative - a Beaver robe is, I find, the most usual peace-offering on serious occasions of this nature as being one of the most valuable - in all probability - Indians are interred with

much solemnity in various parts of the forest - if known by any particular name, which is almost always the case as the Beaver - the Otter - the Heron - the Raven - the Eagle &c &c - a rude resemblance of the animal he is named after is cut upon the tree which overshadows his grave - & if a great warrior his tomahawk & other arms are buried with him - also his hunting apparatus - that he may not enter the world of spirits unequipped - Oblations & offerings are not unfrequently made at funeral & at particular times afterwards -

90. Tuesday March 4th — It was so late in the day before I could leave Smith's Creek for York that I was only able to reach Hartwell's Inn, 10 miles, before dark — the road rather hilly & almost entirely through a continued forest with but few settlements — this part, on this acct is termed the 9 mile wood — have to pass thro' woods nearly for that whole distance — altho' generally fine land — but it belongs chiefly to large proprietors in Europe who are waiting for increased prices be-fore they will sell — Present aver-age value or rather price is 2 dol-lars p acre — Hartwell has a good farm with nearly 150 acres cleared & an excellent orchard — rented of Major Wilmot D.G. Land Surveyor — His ta-vern is as good as the country affords —

Wednesday March 5th — Blue Jays very common & very noisy in the Woods here — Proceeded my journey immediately after breakfast — Saw a large Black Woodpecker — could not shoot it by reason of its cunning — 2 Black Squirrels in a high tree — Their tails like ostrich's feathers at a distance —

fine rich land - with but very few settlements - during the whole of this days drive - got to Carnell's Inn at night in Scarboro - 37 miles from Hartwells - some part of the road bad for sleighing as the snow is gone - Carnell is a Ci. divant Quaker - doing well with his farms & mills - a house full of fine girls - he was a widower & married a widow for his second wife between them have 23 children living - have had 28 - 5 daughters are married -

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Thursday March 6th } Rode to York - only one clearing for 7 miles - until I got a farm of old Major Smalley - appearing a very dismal country - very low flat - and muddy to the Don River and so into this miserable apology for a metropolis consisting of about a Dozen houses clustered about old Jordans Inn - called the York City Hotel - found it tolerably comfortable -

Apparent Interposition of Providence

I think the following fact worthy of notice although it may be nothing more than an accidental coincidance of circumstances — A Mr James Calcutt of Mount Mellick, in the Queen's County of Ireland, Brewer and Distiller, a very respectable man, & in good circumstances — was induced, or rather compelled, to emigrate, in consequence of repeated depredations on his property and threats against his person and even his life, by the Catholics — (he being a protestant) He came to Upper Canada about the year 1831. (I believe in that year) and settled at Cobourg in the N. Castle District — He very soon founded an extensive establishment in the Brewing & Distilling business at that place — a little in front of the village & directly on the shore of Lake Ontario near the wharf or pier where the steam-boat usually landed their goods & passengers. Here he carried on a most productive & prosperous business —

— At the head of the party which had threatened & annoyed him so much in Ireland, and which had done him so much real and personal injury as to induce him to

94. leave his native country, though of good property, for he was really afraid of his life - was a ruffian of the name of Dempsey - a hardy, desperate, desperate villain - Some time after Mr Calcutt had been settled at Cabourg, & his affairs being successful in all his undertakings - for about 2 years - going down to the wharf one morning to see the arrival of one of the Steam-Boats greatly crowded with passengers & his horror & dismay he beheld the very man, Dempsey, who had been the chief cause of his emigration - standing among the people on the crowded deck - as the vessel approached the wharf - to use his own expression, - "every nerve & muscle of him shook with dismay" - Nevertheless, being a man of strong resolution, & having some Irish phrase, all conjectures he determined to watch the motions of the said Dempsey, whom he doubted not to be in full scent after him - & when, & his great joy he saw the vessel after but a few days without landing the person of whom he had so

great a dread - and he walked
away towards his own house -
But the cause of disquietude was
deeply impressed - and his unceasing
returned once before he reached
his own home - "Here is the
very man" come after and
dogging me" constantly re-
curred to his mind - He spent
a restless and sleepless night -
his interesting and interested wife
endeavoured in vain to console
and allay his fears - A violent
storm arose - the wind blew
and the rain pelted - and
darkness reigned - and the Lake
roar'd in anger - all con-
spired to enhance the horror
of his own feelings - At dawn
of day after a sleepless night
he arose - his home stood
on the margin of the Lake
which was still tempestuous -
he thought he saw something
like a bundle of wet woollen
cloth lying on the beach exactly
opposite his own door, he went
to examine it, it seemed a dead
human

96 carcase - & that carcase was the carcase of Dempsey of whom he had so much dread - Immediately on leaving the wharf of Cobourg a fearful storm swept over the face of Ontario rolling his billows into foam - cap'd heaps - over of them rose above and broke upon the deck - the very crowded deck, of the steam boat alluded and swept outs and swept off, and drowned one man, out of hundreds - and that one man was Dempsey - The storm subsided - the boat went on to its final destination - but the corpse of Dempsey - the distorted, swollen, dishonored corpse was cast up by the receding wave & laid at the very door of the man whom he had injured - Whom in all probability he came still further to persecute and annoy - To say I leap of it 'tis an extraordinary circumstance -

It appears that besides the
army drawn from France the
the U.S. 18,000,000 dollars
to carry on the war

The treaty of Paris 1783 is signed
by David Hartley - John Adams
Benj. Franklin & John Jay
Art. 2d describes subsequent description
the line is defined. to start from
the N. W angle of N. Scotia where
it is formed by a line drawn due
north from the source of St. Croix
to the Highlands &c - then along
the Highlands to the
head of
Connecticut River - thence down
middle of said river to 45°
deg. & thence west to the
Lake
1st article only 12 Colonies
2nd article after describing
the line & the waters com-
ing into the
- it says from
point of
Mississippi - thence by a
line along the middle of said
river to 31st deg. of N. Lat
-titude - thence East &c
Art. VIII is thus strong "The navigation
of the River Miss: shall forever remain
to the Subjects of Great Britain & the citizens of the U.S.
free & open to the Portugese

I consider the following extract from the reply of Lord Barchester to a deputation of Indians at a Council held at the castle of St Louis on 10th of Oct 1754 - to mean the Indians of the 7 villages of Lower Canada as distinct from all other nations & of no moment in this question. The Lord had even stated & answered that he had orders to say that he had no answer to give to any proposition from the U S. with the hope of detaching Children - I (Father) might the Children proceed in 1782 to separate us from the U. S., it was reminded that broken leg thereby as soon as peace was restored, I have been minded, in a new one drawn in an amicable manner; - this also I have been disappointed

Children I bind no obligation upon the Indians remains; from the Indians in the people of the States speak now, I act. Stable on this side, shown what I have if they conduct towards the law, I shall not be surprised if we are at war

with them in the course of the present war; and if we are a line must be drawn between warriors — children.

Part 2

[illegible] a [illegible] it appears, therefore, that our present we shall be at war with [illegible] your return — [illegible] a [illegible] at war, we shall be [illegible] by the King [illegible] children. He have destroyed their right of pre-emption; therefore, all their approaches towards us since that time, and all the journeys made by them, I consider as an infringement on the King's right and when a line is drawn between us, be it [illegible] war, they must lose all their improvement [illegible] on our side of it. The people must all be gone, who [illegible] obtain a claim to become the King's subjects. Not belong to the

Indians wild, of course, be
confirmed & secured to them
& their children. You are mutually
that no one part of mankind
united in the most friendly
manner, I learn the Con-
gress of the U. S. with a
view, I believe, our future
conduct is mainly depending.

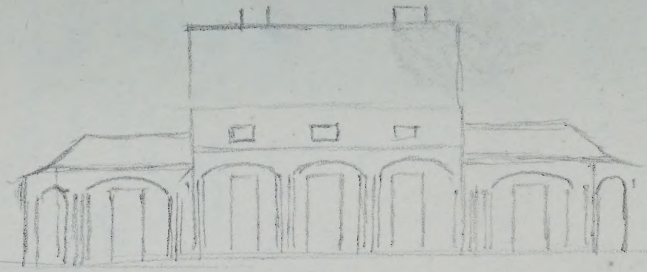
1754

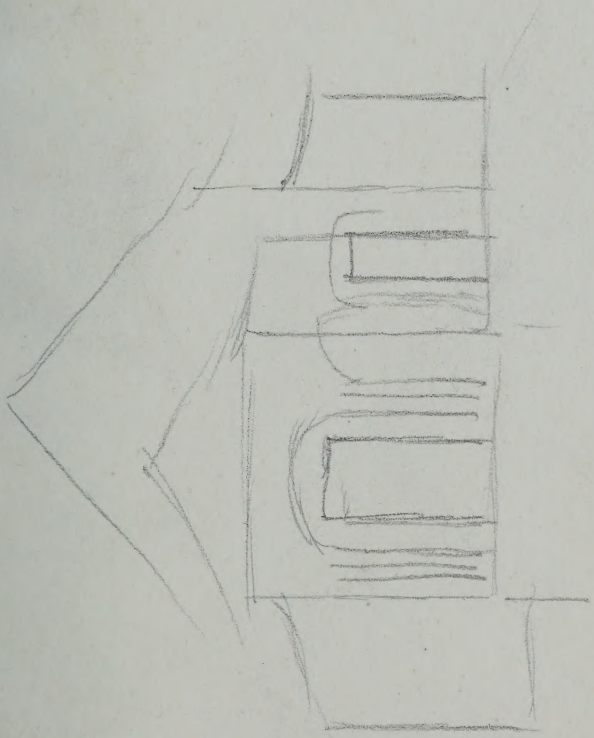
Then again in Sept. last
1755 the Assembly of
the Province is of the
second part
to write. relative to the assistance
of the colony of the Province of
to the northward -
it relates to the boundary dis-
pute between the two
Governments
2d article (important) permits duty-
free goods of either country to land
in either country &
sell & dispose them in the same
manner as in Britain

Signed Grenville
Penn

by the 5th Article of the Treaty
of 1815 - 2 Comrs were to be
appointed to settle the dispute
- to run & mark the Boundaries
and to particularize the islands
belonging to Nova Scotia - Comrs
who were to decide the contro-
versy - Lines thro' the principal
Lakes &c
called the Treaty of Ghent -

3 arches e. & w.
2 do. Back
7 do. Front





Bob Lusk - enters Europia in
May - reaches 54° 16' parallel
in beginning of June -
then heads on land of the
Zigania a people - which
does not grow north of
Sas Katchewan - after passing
which, Kotako with Canada
proper extends north
until round there and
I cross over -

Encroaches upon Assiboinia - Enters
Saskatch
Crosses the mouth of the
Sas Katch - where it enters
river & lay on land - Looks
from - meadows arrive - Right
the border of Lake Superior
I cross dead & rocky ridge
as high as 56 - Katch - until
Lake of Lurks - I cross - The
description - of river to be
referred to my Difference
from river -

Eyt. Cinereous Owl – The figure given is our
like one of mine only
that the bill is yellow and the feet is
presented as very small – He calls it an
inoffensive bird and says it is ½ larger
of the N. A. Owls – yet in his descrip
tion makes it an inch less than the
S. Nyctea – Not rare in the fur coun
tries – Keeping however within the woods
not frequenting the barren grounds like
the Snowy Owl – rare is it to often
met with in broad day light – Found
a nest on 23d May built of sticks lined
with feathers on the top of a lofty
balsam poplar – whereas the S.V.
bridisicalis on the ground – in this
nest were 3 young ones – covered with
white down – Dr. Swainson says
the posterior half of the bill is
covered with cere and is rounded
on swelled at the sides – and but
slightly arched on the ridge –

Arctic or White Horned Owl – Nyctea
Bubo arctica – Very
Common Hares – rare – The only
Specimen I can represent as yet
Boy & Hawks Nest – tis represented
as a very beautiful bird &
certainly Lyhme – a trifle less in
size than the Great Horned Owl

Then is a

December a new Rhabarofe
under the name of W. Ibonii
Brun in the Saskatchewan
Cape 2 or 3 ft in length
many or [illegible] Cattle - 9&9
colour, Lebrum zillaw grey &
cream colour with Dark round
spots with Larger black spots
Legs & ears Coyer Rhan in
the Hyperborean - Some com
Gilt Silvergo

[illegible]

The Cattle Shrank when Even
[illegible] Brown - Some
with the arabs Species

I believe it is the Sam

except when under particular excitement, even on the countenances of the most intellectual, there is an expression of deep and settled melancholy, from which very few indeed of the handsomest Indians are entirely free - proceeding in great part it would seem from the consciousness of the truth of the ancient prophecies that are amongst them - which declare them to be a doomed race and that they must inevitably give place to the white man from the east. That such is the case is further confirmed by their greater cheerfulness and occasional mirth when unobserved by European eyes - It is impossible to regard these people under such impressions without feeling of the deepest interest

Indian Worship of the Sun - The spectacle of thousands of Indians engaged in this ceremony in the open air with no other shelter or limit than the high heaven itself is sublime and imposing beyond any mere temple-worship in the world - Not even Solomon when standing in all his glory before the altar of the Lord in Jerusalem at the Dedication of the Temple, and asking in his beautiful prayer whether God would indeed dwell on the earth

whom, behold "the heaven and heaven
of heavens could not contain Him"
did not and could not present to strik
=ing a scene as whole nations of
the genuine children of the forest amidst
their awful & primeval solitudes
chanting forth their ancient hymns of
joy and of thanksgiving to the great
Luminary of Day coursing all the
magnificent Lands & Seas around with
light and life

=ly of a species of serpentine
or jasper of a greenish colour
and very hard. Flints are not
very common in U. C. I have
a small and very neat Toma-
-hawk from S. America that
it is of Meteoric origin and
therefore of higher virtue than
ordinary ones

Scotch and yr unsophisticated Indians may be mentioned the same myth the value that was placed upon the stone battle axes or tomahawks - the were used before iron instruments were introduced for the same purpose. The Scotch notions on this subject are alluded to and well explained in a few words in Lyndsay's "Court of Kelder" - 5th Stanza and the accompanying explanatory note by Sir Walter Scott in his Minstrelsy of the Scottish Border -

"The axe he bears, it hacks & tears;
'Tis form'd of an earth-fast flint;*
No armour of Knight, tho' ever so right,
Can bear its deadly dint -"

* "An earth-fast stone, or an insulated stone, inclosed in a bed of earth, is supposed to possess peculiar properties. It is frequently applied to sprains & bruises, and used to dissipate swellings; but its blows is reckoned uncommonly severe." Scott

Those of North America are usual

born of God ; - that he has not degenerated ; and that to this hour a remnant of his tribes and of his people still walks in their original majesty through his primeval forests, pursuing his original calling, and treading the same soil first given them of God their common Father the Great Spirit - the Kabibi Monitoo !

It is to shew the strength of the claims of this most interesting race, and that living men have availed themselves of living and authentic materials to carry down to posterity lineaments and remnants so striking ere they have faded from our sight for ever - that I shall from time to time note down such particulars as occur to me - and surely y^e enlightened public of y^e Metropolis of Scotland will patronize such an undertaking -

Among the various co-instances of resemblance between y^e ancient

that their character, habits, and manners have remained ye same or nearly so, since the days of Ishmael, with the mark of the finger of prophecy and of Providence upon them - And proofs = ye are, indeed, striking and living proofs, like ye dispersed of Israel of the truth of the Mosaic History -

- But how much more interesting in a philosophical and historical point of view, may we be able to shew up the lineaments & character of the aboriginal children of the forest of North America - a people at least coeval with the scattering of the tribes of Israel and some of their families in all probability of much higher antiquity - with features, manners, & character - the same as when the splendid names of Greece and of Rome were unsung - and when ye fairest portions of Europe, were unknown or in a state of wilderness untrodden by human feet - Indian tradition says positively that the Red Man was ye first

are as superior to the mere savage of any other country, as ye manly approaches to perfection in any natural man, is superior to lowest scale of degradation! What value could we assign to a series of portraits and sketches of the habits, manners, lives & character, and sayings, of the principal aborigines of our own native island, the antient Britons Scots, Picts, and Danes of Pictish exhibiting them to our view as living emblems; with arms, dress, scenery, &c. all fac-similies and appropriate!— Suppose we could find such a book, filled with original and undoubted materials, should we be able to place an adequate value upon it? I think not!— and could a similar view be carried backwards to ages still more remote. our appreciation, w be yet more enhanced!!—

— Much of the interest we feel when contemplating ye character of the wild Arab, of ye Desert of Asia and of Africa proceed from the universally acknowledged truth

Gallery of Indian Portraits, Scenery, Dresses, Arms &c &c &c &c *

A race of men comprehending several distinct families with characters peculiarly their own, the aboriginal inhabitants of a vast continent, are rapidly passing away, and becoming as though they had never been. Yet those people exhibit traits of character, both personal and mental, in the highest degree interesting to the more sophisticated, artificial, or refined of the human animal.

In whatever degree y^e charms of romance may have been thrown over the heroes of antiquity and of the East, said to have been the "Cradle of Mankind"; and of Greece, and of Rome; and of Scandinavia, and of our own Islands of Britain; — to the same extent, and even far beyond, undoubted fact will bear us out in decorating and blazoning forth the temper, the oratory, and the actions of the Indians of North America; many of whose tribes —

* Some such title as this may serve for the London Exhibition of Indian Portraits and Curiosities.

** Dr Henry's M. S. S. is the best account of the Mississangas - extant. Those M.S. also shew their progress into the Interior until approximating the Sioux their mortal enemies - The Sioux never attacked the Winnebagos - because they had settled in the Fox River Country by consent - (See Carver)

Books wanted - Wilson's Birds
American Phil. Trans. after v. 3 -
Printers Grammar or Guide Pub. by Van Winkle. New York.

Edinbro' Review Nos
all after vol 33 (which I have) also
1817.
vols - 28 - 29 - 30 - 31 - 32 -

Dodsley's ann. register - vols -

Index to Do - & 2nd Index to Edin. review -
Shaw 1 number of the quarterly 46. March
1820
Nos 2 & 41. Free Press. No. 4. St. Jean Baptiste
Street Montreal -

Silver Hydrometer N. York
Wood cuts -
Papers for Capt. Walton
Drawing apparatus -
Letters of introduction -
Pim's Directions about Chauncy -
Inquire abt the Lithrographic Press -

Albion wants - for v. 1. Nos 4 - 12 - 18 - 36 -
_____ for v. 2 - No 2 -

Ploughboy - No 3 & 52 - Title & Index for v. 4 -
_____ from 1 to 33 inclusive & No 35 - & 36 -
of v. 3 - of which I have title & Index

13th Capt. Brandt - go in town visit of Kingfishers - Hawk & Fish Ducks Dine with Brandt - Mrs B - Fishing by Torchlight & shooting Fish - Capt's house & 300 acres with 4000 dollars - War Club of Indn Physician Indn - coons about windows -

14th Receive a Kingfisher - delightful day - first Flies - ride into Bundas Creek - remarkable Marks of Credit - 2 miles reserve - vines Luxuriant - Man wants me to go to his wifes accouchement to cooper Dun

11th Young Indian Farmer Boy
Burlington Bay Canada West contemplating in affection & simplicity of the Squaw - Norton seduced by envy try to catch fish - Mocasins & Maple Beer - Character of Native Land.

12th Take leave - running of rapids - making canoe - Get Bogged - Bear foot - Barton Bay - out into a town - The Inn - £1300 Dollars - 7 acres of land - tolerable tibacco - Money Bugs and - Burlington Bay - cut neck of land - Birds - Eagle Hawks - & King fisher - comfortable house - Bed - Coffee Breakfast

apr 9 - Rose at 5 to catch Boy Holm
bad road - St Catherines quite new -
20 miles brick - wide mouth - 40 miles
to Battle of Honey Creek - Left
at Mrs Ivey's after riding 40 miles -
number of Wr obser - Burlington to be
come a military depot - Sacrifice
of Indians during war -

10th Ride to Grand River - Dogwood
same as Peruvian Bark - Cuttle Mosquito
Map acre of Indn Crops & Squaws
come in - yg Indn mode of beginning to
hunt - Senecas have gone - Dances in
May - Mrs N - a Delaware - Young
Cherokee - Norton's Character - Indian
mode of Hunting - Temptation to engage
2 Days Journey of Land - Rye age long
good for trade with Indn -

said before me for this Cataract
The Fall has evidently been some 20
feet higher – even at this place –
witness the earthy bank of Coal ridge
and on both sides the river upon the
Limestone rock – where the highest
water marks are distinctly visible –
I think it probable that it pic-
turesque qualities will increase –
The Scene is continually varying
and is very fascinating – some parts
totally obscured by foam & mist –
whilst others stand out in bold
relief & exhibiting a wood or pal-
ry variety of tint & colouring – to what
added now to the wild up-
roar part of the scene was the
immense ice – sicles that stud
here about the overhanging pro
-jections of the rocks – The bright
green tint of the water added
much to the effect – Walked over
the Battle-field of Lundy's Lane –
Effect of a shot on the trees – favourable
ground – Turned off a view of Whirlpool –
a remarkable attempt of the river to
force a passage in another direction –
Banks steep & rocky like a perpendi-
-cular wall 200 feet high & more –
very near walking into a hole
like a well – Trees & dead animals
wheirly round & round – till in the
center went down – A very romantic
& wild scene – Charming ride – Battle
of Queenstown – Lewiston on opposite side –
Wasfally have visited this part of this
place – Saw a Carolina Woodpecker
here – the first I have seen –

& hoodwinked Orioles & Female Partridges Red Bird - tailed Grackle Blue Jay - Large Hawks & Turkey Buzzard - tailed Hawks in the River where they & when many men calling together - Encamped on the Bank of the Grand River in July Chapman Mary Grosvenor - Zebulon & Lydia - It was late when I got back to Forsyth -

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April 8th - Found an old Quaker woman & her daughter living in a miserable & solitary house in an open field without fence - on a hill just above the Falls - Found I could purchase the 200 Acres here including the Table Rock - all the best views & some good land for £1000 - Cy - ($4000) - about a month on Speculation - if I like the main - Again examined & re-examined this stupendous cataract from every point of view but still think it more beautiful than sublime - It is undoubtedly sublime & pre-eminent compared with other Falls - But Imagination goes beyond reality & we hear too much

rocks and stile much ice - es-
pecially towards the small Yank-
town of Buffalo seen on the
opposite side in the distance
with Black Rock more at hand
& Grand Island - Here I saw an Eagle
alighted upon the snow on a piece
of floating ice in the river Niagara
between the United States & Grand Island - Parker has a fine house on
the american side & the people
speak well of him - As well
they may for his house is with the
american I do not wonder at
the people speaking well of
him - I just up at a tolerable
hour in a new village commencing
there - it I think they called Water-
loo - The current of the river
here I thought to flow at the
rate of 3 miles an hour -
without any thing occurring worth
naming - a Rapid - perhaps it
might have been 4 miles an hour -
but it does not continue the
same speed down all the way
to the Falls, as about the mouth
of the Chippawa and a little
above it is a very gentle cur-
rent - but just below the Chippa-
wa commences a series of
rapids - As I rode back to
the Falls much annoyed by the
birds - Immense flocks of red-

1817
April 7th } Left the Falls of Niagara - Beauty of the
drive along the banks of
the river - Orchards - Fine farms -
Chesnut Trees - fine contrast green
water with the red banks - mid the
all arrive Lake Erie - Buffalo - The
Kingfisher tribe - Aquatic birds and
Ducks innumerable - Many White
headed Eagles & Fishing Hawks catch
-ing Fish - Drove under our bows a
large fish not 20 feet from my
head - Chippawa a poor place - saw
a few soldiers and fewer Indians - Banks
of the river above the Falls low
-er and very level - Grand
Island of great size & important
-ance and excellent soil - never
saw so many Eagles in my
life all upon it or the - I suppose
I saw from 50 to 100 and of
much variety of plumage, many
apparently all of one species
Came at evening to Buffalo Creek -
Lake Erie - bright & pure water -
water - swiftness of the current
velocity considerable Descent - The
Banks generally of a reddish coloured
clay - About Fort Erie it is sandy
and low - Stands upon a rock -
The fort exhibited a sad scene of
Destruction - utterly devastated - it was
-less so - The waters of Lake Erie
seemed thereby - tame and of a
brown colour - low shelving

its victim - and kills instantly by sending its fangs into the spine in the nape of the neck - By some of the western Indians it is called the Raccoon of the Mountains - It is a fable that it has the power to seize & strangle its prey by means of its long tail - as some authors have asserted (so far extracted from Mr Pellet)

A Fact. I had the following from a very intelligent American who was knowing to the fact - One Caldwell, a Presbyterian Minister of Elizabeth Town in New-Jersey, during the latter part of the revolutionary war, used to go armed into the pulpit and preach with a loaded pistol on each side his bible - So zealous was he in the cause of bloodshed though preaching peace & good will to all men - This man was held in great esteem by the disaffected to British Interests (see a book entitled American Epitaphs &c. by Jim T. Allen)

He was an eminent proof of the truth that those who take the sword shall perish by the sword for, both he and his wife were eventually killed by the British Soldiery

I had the following information from Mr. Pillet of the Lake of the Two Mountains

He describes a large Eagle much larger than the ordinary Kinds frequenting the mouth of the Columbia which I presume is the Condor as he mentions that it has a kind of wattle on its head like that of a Turkey Cock. Two Kinds of Sheep on the Mountains both with large horns but one has wool finer than any Spanish Wool whilst the other is covered with hair. The Indians sometimes take them by running them down. There are many animals on the west side the stony mountains not found on the east side — all, or most animals except those of the human race, which are the reverse, are larger and heavier than the same animals are on the east side. The Musk-Ox is not found on those Mountains where our Traders haunt.

Rattlesnake. Some Indian tribes have a notion that if a rattlesnake has seized on the leg of a man he must be allowed to keep his hold without stirring — as the snake will do for some time — he will suck out the poison & fall off himself dead — but as they more truly assert very few have sufficient presence of mind to try the experiment —

Panther. hunt by noticing the fresh tracks of Deer — and either by instinct or experience he knows which way the Deer will go — he fetches a round so as to get before them — climbs a tree & lies motionless upon a large branch that overhangs the path — drops suddenly like a shot upon

Itinerary to Kingston

Point of Clair — Mr Glassfords
Cedars — only one house
Isle of Perrault — A Blind Frenchman
Couteau du Lac — Mr Donalds
Point of Burdett — a Good House
Glengary — House next to Mr Donalds
Cornwall — Stage House
Williamsburg — only one house
Chrysler's Farm
Edwardsburg — only one house

Itinerary

Montreal to La Chine	9 miles	Mr Arthurs Inn
Point of Clair	9 miles	Glassfords Inn
Cedars	19 miles	Bells Inn. good
Coteau du Lac	8 miles	did not stop
Pt of Burdette	11 miles	Mr Gees. bad house solitary. on a point of land. north side of Lake St Francis
Grants Inn.		a good house in Glengary near Lake St Francis
Cornwall	12 miles	
Osnabruck		
Aults Inn	5 miles	a tolerable house Kept by Ault

Harsen's or other Island in Lake St. Clair
Cooks Bay & Holland's River Lake Simcoe
Burlington Bay — Up the Credit
French River between Nipissing & Lake Huron
Harbour of Penetanguishene
Entrance of Lake Huron
Rice Lake
Course of the Thames —
Towards the Head of Lake Erie —
Rideau Lake
Port Talbot
Amelia's burgh
Farm near Kingston or Montreal —
Osnabruck —

The mines are at, or below
Port Neuf

Mr. Chaud
2 Pockets
2 Towels
2 Shirts
1 Night cap
1 Stock

2 Pockets
2 Neckt
3 Shirts
3 Prs Socks
1 Night cap